

THE TIMES 1785-1985

Tomorrow

Metal jam  
Libby Purves on one woman's fight against diabetes

Leading role?  
Japan seeks its place in the world

Operatic art  
David Hockney paints for Glyndebourne

Up'n'down under  
Australian rugby league: first in a series

Portfolio

There was no winner yesterday of the Times Portfolio competition prize. Tomorrow's prize is therefore increased to £6,000. Portfolio list, page 14. Rules and how to play, information service, back page.

**Joseph tells teachers 'no more pay'**

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education last night told Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the second biggest teachers' union, that there was no more money for teachers' pay this year but there would be extra next year if the unions got down to talks.

Breakdown warning, page 2

**Dog fight case**

Two bull terrier bitches suffered "barbaric cruelty" during a 40-minute organized dog fight, it was alleged at a court in Chesham, Hertfordshire. Page 3

**Critical bishops**

Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales published an unprecedentedly candid criticism of the way the Vatican runs the church's affairs. Page 4

**Nuclear offers**

Washington and Moscow made concrete nuclear offers, Mr Gorbachev suggesting a five-month test ban and Mr Reagan a chance for Soviet experts to see a US underground test. Back page

**Head resigns**

Mr Alec Askew, aged 61, head of the school attended by four boys drowned at Land's End, is resigning his post from the end of August. Page 3

**Store deal**

Dobsonians, the department store group, is about to announce a deal with House of Fraser which could lead to an agreed merger. Page 15

**Madrid murder**

Terrorists shot dead Spain's director-general of defence policy in a daylight attack on the streets of Madrid. Page 6

**Wolves play on**

Wolverhampton Wanderers are likely to begin their football League programme on August 17 despite a High Court order to wind them up after incurring £700,000 debts. Page 25

**Agnew's best**

Leicestershire's fast bowler Jonathan Agnew, named for the forthcoming Test match against Australia, took nine wickets for 70 against Kent, the season's best figures. Page 24

**Leader page, 11**

Letters: On housing, from Mr D. W. Dungate and Mr J. Heddle MP; location of power stations, from Mr R. Grove-White

Leading articles: Screening the IRA; Peru

Features, pages 8-10

Reagan's budget challenge; land of the blind, by Bernard Levin; rationing health care. Spectrum: women in the new Japan. Fashion drawing a bead

Obituary, page 12

Group Captain P. S. Turner. Mrs Leticia Ramsey

Computer Horizons, 21, 22

Government report on skills shortage; the extremes of electronic mail; doubts on new Commodore micro; computer jobs in academia

Classified, pages 20-23, 26-28

Computer, legal appointments

Home News	2-4	Exam results	12
Overseas	2-5	Law Report	19
Arts	12-18	Letters	11
Architecture	12	Night Sky	12
Arts	13	Obituary	12
Business	14-19	Parliament	4
Chess	21	Science	12
Church	12	Sport	24-26
Court	12	TV & Radio	29
Crosswords	8, 30	Theatre, etc	29
Diary	30	Weather	20
Events	10	Wills	12

# Tough powers in Bill to tackle drugs traffickers

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Government's crack-down on drug trafficking is expected to result in an unprecedented package of draconian legislative measures this autumn, including a new offence of "laundering" drug profits.

A Bill being prepared by the Home Office, which is aimed at combating the growing threat posed by dealers in heroin and cocaine, is likely to have four key ingredients:

- Power for courts to seize drug barons' assets;
- Reform of banking laws to allow closer examination of traffickers' financial records;
- Reversal in the burden of proof so that drug barons will lose homes, cash and luxuries unless they can prove they were not purchased with profits from trafficking;
- A new offence, akin to handling stolen goods, of handling assets made from trading in hard drugs.

The tough new measures, to be introduced by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, will reflect the recommendations of the Commons Home Affairs Committee which gave a warning in May that Britain would inherit America's drug crisis within five years unless there was immediate action.

In addition, the Government is seeking a new United Nations convention on drug trafficking with a central provision that drug-pushing should become an international offence triable wherever a person was apprehended.

Mr David Mellor, the junior minister at the Home Office who is masterminding the Government's offensive against hard drugs, told *The Times* that the new legislative measures would amount to "a comprehensive, effective and tough package".

"If one really believes in a policy of deterrence against those ruthlessly involved in large-scale drug trafficking you have to have a two-pronged approach - prison and seizure of assets," he said.

While the final details of the Bill are still under discussion, Mr Mellor said its basic structure would ensure there could be a "pre-emptive strike" against the assets of a suspected drug trafficker before he or she had time to dispose of them before a trial. The assets would be frozen on application.

"It will then be necessary to provide a power whereby the courts can properly examine what the asset situation is and to be able to make the proper orders of seizure."

That would include the power to seize assets nominally in the hands of a third party, "where it was obvious those transactions have been affected in order to get rid of drug money".

"We also think the mischief of knowingly with drug monies is as great as the mischief of being involved in the distribution of drugs and therefore it would be appropriate to create an offence of being involved in money laundering operations. That will be a new criminal offence."

Anybody who knew they were dealing with assets from drugs, including banks or other financial institutions, would face serious penalties. "It is artificial to say criminal activity ends at the point of sale of the product. It doesn't. It continues through with the realization of assets," he said.

The Home Office is also considering whether existing law gives investigating and prosecuting authorities sufficient access to financial records and documents of suspected drug pushers.

Mr Mellor admits existing powers are limited. "I certainly think it more likely than not that further powers will have to be given in relation to investigating financial records. It would have to be done in a way that precluded irresponsible fishing expeditions and was subject to proper safeguards."

But most importantly ministers currently favour changes to the civil law along American lines to assist the seizure of drug barons' assets.

The law in the United States had been amended so that assets, including money, property, aircraft, boats and cars, are forfeited when their connection with drug-related offences is probable and the defendant is unable to prove the contrary.

# Reprisal threats by Botha on sanctions

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

President P. W. Botha of South Africa yesterday rejected worldwide criticism of his government. He threatened reprisals against neighbouring black-ruled states if the United Nations persisted with economic sanctions against South Africa, and he turned down a request from the country's leading black churchman, Bishop Desmond Tutu, for an urgent meeting to discuss the current unrest.

Speaking in a youth rally at Potchefstroom University in the south-western Transvaal, Mr Botha said that foreign blacks working in South Africa - estimated to number 1,350,000 - would be repatriated if "punitive measures" approved by the United Nations Security Council last Friday were implemented.

His government would also have to consider ending economic, technical, financial, medical, agricultural, transport and communications cooperation with neighbouring countries.

He said: "It would be made clear to these countries that such action would be 'solely due to the decision of the Security Council', which was 'illegal and uncalled-for'."

The President said he hoped people would know where to put the blame if South Africa's transport network "is no longer available for (neighbouring countries) imports and exports". He said if the "terrorist onslaught" against South Africa continued, it would be met with his country's "full military force".

He commended the "realistic approach" of Britain and the United States in abstaining in the vote in the Security Council. All the other 13 members of the council voted in favour of voluntary economic sanctions by UN members against South Africa. France had earlier imposed a unilateral ban on new investment in South Africa.

Earlier, Mr Botha said he could find no time for a meeting with Bishop Tutu before August 19 when he had already agreed to meet a delegation of Anglican churchmen led by Archbishop Philip Russell of Cape Town.

The President said that he would only talk to people who "denounce violence and civil disobedience".

Bishop Tutu said: "I will not accept the condition of not taking part in civil disobedience". He accused Mr Botha of "playing political games". He did not think many other churchmen could accept this condition either.

Tutu snubbed, page 5

# Top pay awards badly expressed, says Gowrie

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A Cabinet minister admitted last night that the Government's presentation of the top salary awards could have been better.

Lord Gowrie, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, said in a Lords debate on the Top Salary Review Body awards, an issue on which the Government's majority in the Commons slumped to 17 last week, that it had been criticized not least by its own supporters. "It may be that we should ourselves have spent more time preparing our announcement," he said.

It was the first admission from the Government that its handling of the controversial award was not all it could have been.

But Lord Gowrie defended the rises, saying that no time was really suitable to make them. Previous governments had not balked at awarding much larger increases.

He denied the Government had been insensitive on the issue. Its refusal to carry out the review body recommendations and to stage the award was an indication of that.

# Hamlyn takes over Heinemann for £100m

By Robin Young

The boards of Mr Paul Hamlyn's Octopus Publishing and Sir Owen Green's holding company, BTR, yesterday announced that they had agreed terms for the biggest merger in the history of British publishing.

The BTR subsidiary, the Heinemann Group, is to become part of Octopus in return for 35 per cent of Octopus's enlarged equity. The deal values Heinemann at £100 million, and when approved by shareholders will establish Octopus as Britain's biggest publisher with a market capitalization of £300 million, and total sales worth £150 million a year.

Mr Hamlyn founded Octopus, with a capital of £10,000, 15 years ago while he was joint managing director of Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International. He had sold his previous company, bearing his own name, to IPC for £2,275,000 15 years after setting it up on £250.

He has had ambitions for the present deal for years. He first approached Thomas Tilling, Heinemann's previous owners, four and a half years ago, and he renewed the advance 18 months ago when BTR acquired Heinemann as part of its takeover of Tilling.

Mr Hamlyn sees Heinemann as ideally complementary to his own publishing operations. Founded in 1890, the imprint has an impressive literary backlist, including D H Lawrence, John Steinbeck, Somerset Maugham, J B Priestley, Paul Scott and Gore Vidal.

Its present authors include best-sellers such as Catherine Cookson, Wilbur Smith and Robert Lacey.

The Heinemann Group, through Heinemann Educational Books and the primary school publishing house of Ginn, is Britain's biggest publisher of books for primary



Is this a picture of the Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov? A scene from the film appearing to show Dr Sakharov in full control mentally and physically.

# Bradford jury gives misadventure verdict

From Peter Daveport, Bradford

After six hours of deliberations, the jury at the Bradford football fire inquest yesterday returned verdicts of misadventure on all 56 victims of the tragedy.

They also made 20 recommendations aimed at preventing a similar disaster which are to be forwarded to the Home Secretary and to members of the Popplewell inquiry now preparing their full report into safety at sports grounds.

Minutes after the verdicts were delivered, Mr Bill Hudson, a solicitor representing the families of the dead and the injured at the inquest, said that a writ for damages would now be issued within the month.

He did not say against whom it would be served but the football club, the health and safety executive and West Yorkshire County Council have all been mentioned as possible targets of litigation.

The Bradford Law Society, acting for the victims, is preparing a test case to establish liability in the High Court and it is expected that compensation claims will then be settled rapidly out of court.

The inquest lasted four days and heard evidence from more than 40 witnesses. The jury of seven women and three men gave the cause of death of the 50 bodies found in the burnt Valley Parade grandstand as due to inhalation of smoke and carbon monoxide and burns. In the cases of the six other victims who died later in hospital the fire was said to be the major contributory cause.

They agreed with the interim Popplewell report that the cause of the fire which spread with devastating speed to engulf the old, wooden stand, was a dropped cigarette end, cigar butt, lit match or pipe tobacco falling onto accumulated rubbish beneath the wooden floors.

Many of their recommendations were an echo of those highlighted by Mr Justice Popplewell. The jury produced new suggestions for helping police and forensic scientists identify bodies badly mutilated in disasters such as Bradford.

Their first recommendation was that all dentures should be marked with the name of the owner and it should be mandatory. As part of the same suggestion they said that at dental examinations it should be obligatory to bring up to date a "map of the mouth" with the records being available to the coroner.

The inquest had heard evidence that physical identification was impossible in all cases of bodies found in the grandstand.

The jury then turned to recommendations aimed at improving safety at sports grounds.

Continued on back page, col 2

# Full cost of pit strike near £6bn, says NCB

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The National Coal Board yesterday confirmed that the year-long miners' strike cost the industry £1.75 billion, the average miner £10,000, and ended with the programme of pit closures and manning cuts largely intact.

The full cost to the nation will be nearer £6 billion, with the electricity industry later this week announcing that it has recorded a loss, rather than an expected £2 billion profit. The losses to the rail and other industries directly accountable to the strike, and the extra policing costs, account for the remainder of the cost.

Mr David Hunt, Under Secretary at the Department of Energy, with responsibility for coal, said yesterday: "The NCB annual report shows that the greatest damage has been done by Arthur Scargill to the coal industry itself, with lost investment, lost markets and lost opportunities."

The shadow of Scargill has cost the coal industry dear, but that is nothing to the price the nation would have had to pay had Scargill won his class war."

The NCB yesterday announced total losses of £2.2 billion, all of which are covered by government grants. In the current financial year the losses directly attributable to the strike, mainly repairs to damaged faces and underground roadways, will be £342 million.

However, the NCB remains confident that it can reach its target of breaking even by 1987-88, with low-cost pits such as Selby and Asfordby replacing the high-cost pits.

Continued on back page, col 2

# Banks cut half-point off base rates

By Richard Thomson and David Smith

The clearing banks cut their base lending rates by half a point to 11.5 per cent yesterday, making a general reduction in building society mortgage and investment rates certain.

So far only a few of the largest societies have cut their lending rates to new borrowers by 0.75 per cent, but the general council of the Building Societies Association will hold a special meeting next month to consider a cut of around 1 per cent, likely to take effect from September 1. Normally the council does not meet in August.

There were hopes in the City that bank base rates could fall by a further 0.5 per cent in the next fortnight, giving more scope for building societies to cut their rates.

Mr Roy Cox, BSA chairman, said yesterday that a reduction in building society rates could be expected soon because they were now out of line with others in the market. Meanwhile, the Coventry Building Society announced a drop of 0.75 per cent to new borrowers yesterday, giving a basic lending rate of 13.25 per cent.

The societies' investment rates, however, are likely to fall considerably more than home loan rates. Although societies raised deposit rates in line with mortgage rates in March, competition with banks forced them to deposit rates up further by around 1 per cent.

If mortgage rates fall by 1 per cent, therefore, the societies are likely to look for an investment cut of at least 1.5 per cent. Gross rates paid on higher interest accounts are around 13.5 to 16 per cent.

Despite this, building societies are expected to take in only a net £650 million for July. They had been hoping for more after the cut in competing bank rates earlier this month. Inflows have been inadequate for six months, and new car sales in August are likely to depress them further next month.

Despite the base rate cut, the pound rose more than 2 cents yesterday, to \$1.4287 against the dollar, and later climbed above \$1.43 in New York. Those levels were the highest since April last year.

Sir Terence Beckett, director general of the Confederation of British Industry, welcomed the move on base rates, which will cut industry's borrowing costs by £125 million a year. "We believe the message is getting through, but we are still working for further reductions," he said.

The CBI will publish its latest industrial trends survey today, and the results are expected to be noticeably gloomier than in recent months. The combination of a strong pound and high interest rates has hit industry in both home and export markets.

Details, page 15

# Does Your Memory Fail You?

A WORLD-FAMOUS memory expert, who has trained industrialists, trades unionists, businessmen, professional men, salesmen, housewives and students to improve their memories, said recently:

"Many people are embarrassed by a poor memory, and find difficulty in concentrating; whilst others realise that they lose business, academic and social opportunities not only because they cannot remember accurately everything they see, hear or read, but also because they cannot think or express their thoughts, clearly, logically and concisely. Some seek advice, but many do not, mainly because they believe their memories cannot be improved."

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New Technique

And yet, he went on to explain, he has devised a new, simple technique which can







## Fight between terriers in bloodstained ring shown on video to court

Two bull-terrier bitches suffered terrible injuries in an organized dog-fight described by a senior RSPCA inspector as "the most barbaric act of deliberate cruelty" he had ever dealt with, a court was told.

Video film of the 40-minute fight in which a Staffordshire bull-terrier had its jaw ripped off by an English bull-terrier was shown to magistrates at Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, yesterday.

Seven of 12 defendants have pleaded guilty to charges under the 1911 Protection of Animals Act, including aiding and abetting the ill-treatment of the two dogs. The seven are from Sutton, Balham, Southampten, Herford, Wolverhampton and Nottingham.

The other five, who face additional charges, were bailed until today when a date for their trial will be set. They include Karl Canwell, aged 28, of the Lynde, Laidon, Basidon, Essex, who denies aiding and abetting a fight between the terriers and a similar offence within the preceding six months.

Arrests were made after a raid by police and RSPCA officers on a disused barn in Coopers Lane, Enfield, north London on May 11 this year when a video camera and film were seized.

RSPCA officials say the case is the first prosecution in Britain this century connected with dog fighting.

Mr David Waters, for the prosecution told the court that the police and RSPCA officers also took pictures of a bloodstained fighting ring barricaded by doors which were "be-

smirched with blood". They found other bull-terrier dogs inside "which you may infer were there to be used in other bouts", he said.

One of the spectators had parked his car at the barn entrance to stop passers-by wandering in. Mr Waters said: "It was an event which drew spectators. They were important because an event like this would not take place without their encouragement, and the distorted sense of gratification they get from watching dogs fight in this manner."

As police arrived at the barn the crowds scattered. Some escaped but most were arrested. Mr Waters listed the injuries to both dogs, one of which had to be destroyed afterwards.

The Staffordshire had the skin and muscle covering the lower jaw lifted off, exposing the jaw bone. Flesh was hanging down, bleeding and covered in splinters. The lower left canine tooth had been ripped out and multiple bite wounds punctured the skin.

Mr Waters said the left ear flap was badly mauled with a hole torn through it, and both front legs were badly bitten. The white parts of the dog's body were stained red with blood.

On May 21 that dog had to be destroyed.

The English Bull-terrier's nose was punctured by at least 10 bite wounds with further bite wounds to both front legs. Her upper lip and nose were also punctured, Mr Waters said.

An RSPCA Chief Superintendent, Mr Fank Milner, who took part in the raid, told the court: "I have seen a lot in 31 years and as an act of deliberate

cruelty this must stand very high."

When police and RSPCA officials approached the barn they were spotted by an "observer" in a hedge, he said. Ten or 12 men ran out into the fields. In the barn he found the dogs "locked in battle".

"The English dog was underneath almost unconscious in a terrible state. The Staffordshire was on top and the bridle underneath was not resisting, it was beyond resistance."

During the 40-minute video film of the fight magistrates and public watched intently as the two dogs grappled with locked jaws on the bloodstained floor of the dark barn.

There were frequent howls and squeals of pain from both animals, egged on by their two owners, who remained in the ring during the whole fight.

The prosecution claims that the owners, whose faces are not clearly seen on the badly shot amateur film, are Richard Hossell, aged 18, unemployed, of The Chequers public house, The Causeway, Potters Bar, and Clive Wilcoxson, aged 24, a London Transport foreman, of Alfred Road, Sutton. Hossell pleaded guilty to cruelly ill-treating a bull-terrier by allowing it to fight another. He will appear for sentence.

Wilcoxson admitted causing two bull-terriers to fight but denied cruelly ill-treating his dog. He will appear today with Hossell and three others when a date will be set for a hearing.

Those on trial yesterday were David Morphew, aged 37, a bricklayer, and Christopher Jerome, aged 29, a company director, both of Gossams End, Berkhamstead; Sean Waiters,



aged 22, a British Rail trackman, of Cottonmill Crescent, St Albans, Simon Burnham, aged 20, of Ravenslea Road, Balham South west London; Peter Johnson, aged 39, unemployed, of Genge Avenue, Parkfield Wolverhampton; Alan Brown, aged 33, unemployed, of Midleton Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire and Gerald Brown, aged 17, from Balham. Each

face two charges of aiding and abetting the dog fight. Their trial will continue today.

Richard Hossell, Clive Wilcoxson, Karl Canwell, and Peter Ogden, aged 22, unemployed, of Park Road, Northaw, Potters Bar, and Clive Mills, aged 25, a labourer of The Caravan, Coopers Lane, Enfield, were remanded until today.

The barn complex where the dog-fight took place. Among the 12 defendants appearing at Cheshunt Magistrates' Court, charged under the 1911 Protection of Animals Act are (from left) Richard Hossell, Simon Burnham and Christopher Jerome.

## Osborne in dispute over play

By Our Arts Correspondent

The National Theatre has postponed its production of *The Entertainer* by John Osborne because of a dispute over the casting of Joan Plowright in the play.

Mr Osborne objected to the casting of Miss Plowright, the wife of Lord Olivier, when it was announced, and the parties have been unable to agree on a replacement for the production, which was due to open in September.

The theatre said yesterday that Miss Plowright would now appear in the lead role of a new production of *Mrs Warren's Profession*, by Bernard Shaw, which will preview in October.

The company still hopes to present *The Entertainer* in the new year.

Mr Osborne said that he had no personal objection to Miss Plowright appearing in his play, but he was offended that the National Theatre had not consulted him about casting.

## Tougher laws on tyres urged

By Our Motoring Correspondent

Tyre manufacturers and distributors are to step up their long-running campaign for tougher regulations on tyre safety. The move announced yesterday comes after a new survey which shows that six out of ten car tyres are "dangerously illegal" when changed.

It also shows that the number of dangerous tyres has increased sharply, from 47 per cent of tyres changed in a similar survey in 1980, to 63 per cent this year.

The survey was conducted by National Tyre Service (NTS), the largest independent tyre

CAR TYRES ILLEGAL WHEN REPLACED	%
1980	47
1981	49
1982	59
1983	59
1984	62
1985	63

Source: National Tyre Service, Stockport

distributor. It covers 1,300 tyre depots operated by members of the National Tyre Distributors' Association.

Last night, NTS said that legislation required tyres with a minimum tread depth of only

one millimetre over 75 per cent of the tyre face. This compared with the two millimetres set for the official cars of government ministers and three millimetres which the AA and RAC insist is necessary to cope with weather conditions in this country.

The one millimetre minimum is less than half the standard required in most Continental countries and in Australia, the USA, and Japan. It has been criticized as inadequate by road safety organizations, the Consumers' Association and the Road Research Laboratory.

## Land's End tragedy headmaster quits

Mr Alec Askew, head teacher of Stoke Poges County Middle School, attended by the four boys who drowned while on a school trip to Land's End, is to "retire and resign" from his post with effect from the end of August, Buckinghamshire education authority announced yesterday.

Although teachers can choose to retire any time after the age of 60, Mr Askew's decision to go, aged 61, is unusual in its timing. A full term's notice is normally required. He had already left the school two days before the end of term last week.

Mr Askew led the party of 51

pupils on an activity holiday to Cornwall in May during which four boys were swept to their deaths from rocks into the sea. An inquest earlier this month was told that he had seen the children on the rocks but left them there, not appreciating the danger. Some parents had called for his resignation.

## Social work strike may end today

Striking social workers in Lambeth, south London, are expected to go back to work today after a promise that no immediate disciplinary action will be taken over the case of Tyra Henry.

The 600 social workers and administrative staff were given an assurance yesterday by Mr Ted Knight, leader of Lambeth Council, that there would be no disciplinary action until a public inquiry had been held.

Ms Jackie Lewis, assistant branch secretary for the National Association of Local Government Officers said last night that she was "hopeful of an early end to the dispute" when 1,500 Nalco members meet to discuss the council's assurance this morning.

But Mrs Janet Boateng, chairwoman of Lambeth's social services committee, on hearing the council's assurance said last night that she was "unhappy about the delay in carrying out disciplinary action".

Speaking from Buenos Aires, where she is on a fact-finding mission for the World Council of Churches, Mrs Boateng said: "I am sure the independent inquiry will come to the same conclusion as our internal inquiries."

The second internal report into the social service's handling of the case of Tyra Henry, the baby bitten and battered to death by her father last August, concluded that there was "sufficient evidence to indicate professional shortcomings and recommend that DHSS management take the appropriate disciplinary action".

Nalco claims that the full facts surrounding the case were not taken into account in the report and that in particular the role of the police and probationary service needed further investigation.

Meanwhile Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State for Health, was accused by the council of making political capital out of the baby's death after he called for an immediate report from Lambeth.

## Demand for building land will rise in South-east

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

Builders are likely to need between 135,000 acres and 150,000 acres of land in the south-east in the next 15 years to satisfy the demand for housing in the region, the National House-Building Council said yesterday.

This would mean an increase of about two per cent in the amount of land used for housing, taking it from its present 14.5 per cent to 16.75 per cent. The amount of agricultural, woodland and other land would therefore be reduced from 85.5 per cent to 83.25 per cent.

Over the country as a whole, it is estimated that building land will increase in the next 15 years from 11 per cent to 12 per cent, but the main controversy over building land, particularly where it impinges into the green belts, is in the south-east.

The battle between the developers and conservationists was joined earlier this month by a group of more than 30 Conservative MPs for constituencies in the region, who wrote to the Prime Minister asking that future housing development should be confined to "certain specific conurbations".

Mrs Margaret Thatcher replied that the Government would be deluding itself if it believed that the growth it sought, and the jobs and houses that went with it, could be met solely by development in "certain specific conurbations".

The figures produced by the NHBC, an independent body representing all sides of house-building, seek to allay fears of those who believe the south-east is becoming covered with houses.

Mr Andrew Tait, chairman of the council, said in this case it was representing the voice of the silent consumer, who might want to move to the area for a job, to be near friends or relations, or simply because he liked the place.

"There is always going to be conflict between the conservationist and the developer, but if these figures are even roughly correct, with good will it should be possible to reconcile the reasonable aims of reasonable conservationists with the reasonable objectives of reasonable developers", he said.

For the purposes of the survey, the South-east includes Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East and West Sussex, Essex, Greater London, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Kent, Oxfordshire and Surrey.

## Car dealers in price war 'auctions'

By Clifford Webb Motoring Correspondent

Car dealers are being inundated with telephone calls from motorists who want to take last-minute advantage of factory discounts and play dealers off against each other to obtain the best cut-price quotations on a new August "C" registration vehicle.

Salesmen last night described the run-up to the August sales as "midsummer madness". They said customers were obtaining quotations from as many as six dealers, and then calling a second time to see if they were prepared to undercut the lowest offer.

Until recently, many car dealers refused to give quotations in this way to avoid just the sort of "telephone auction" they are now experiencing.

Judging by the responses yesterday to my requests for prices, the practice is now widely accepted as a development in the price war.

Quotations varied enormously for the same make of car. The biggest savings offered yesterday were £1,870 on a Renault 25 V6 Turbo (recommended retail price: £18,700) and £1,432 off a Rover 3500 Vanden Plas (RRP £13,325).

Dealers blamed manufacturers for featuring the "special deals" available in big pre-August advertising campaigns. They said customers were demanding up to 20 per cent off because they claimed to know dealers were prepared to sell at factory prices and make several hundred pounds of profit on incentive bonuses available from manufacturers.

Telephone quotations of reductions on recommended retail prices obtained by *The Times* were:

Ford: Fiesta from £400 to £1,000; Orion £706 to £1,100; Sierra £700 to £1,200; Capri £650 to £1,300. Austin Rover: Mini, £338 to £600; Maestro £750 to £1,000; Montego £680 to £1,328; Rover 213 and 216 £720 to £900; Rover 2000 to 3500 £794 to £1,432. Vauxhall: Nova £264 to £800; Astra £468 to £990; Cavalier £690 to £1,000; Carlton £800 to £1,250. Volkswagen: Polo £200 to £630; Golf £350 to £800; Passat £450 to £950. Renault: Renault 5 £180 to £600; Renault 9 £300 to £680; Renault 11 £240 to £800; Renault 25 £660 to £1,170. Nissan: Micra £198 to £600; Cherry £380 to £850; Sunny £250 to £750. Toyota: Corolla £400 to £740; Caddy £430 to £1,000. BMW: 318i £450 to £700; 323i £650 to £800; 528i £850 to £1,000; 728i £950 to £1,200.

## Record producer fined

Nigel Oakes, an Old Etonian disc jockey and record producer, who was arrested on an outstanding warrant after a ball at Windsor Castle in June, was fined a total of £155 by magistrates at Horseley Road, London, yesterday. They also endorsed five penalty points on his driving licence.

Oakes, aged 23, of Maids Avenue, Maids Vale, north-west London, who runs a Knightsbridge-based mobile discotheque named "Traitor", admitted driving his BMW car without insurance in King's Road, Chelsea, in June last year, having a defective silencer and a loose number plate.

## Hauliers predict failure of night ban on lorries

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

The ban on night and weekend lorry traffic in London will have little effect when it comes into operation in December, freight transport interests declared yesterday.

Describing the Greater London Council proposals as "a travesty" and "utter nonsense", the Freight Transport Association said so many lorries would be allowed in on permit that the effect on London's roads would be hardly noticeable. The GLC were performing a confidence trick on the public in their deathbed wish to impose a ban before being abolished", the association said.

Leaders of the industry are to meet Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, today and will urge her to use reserve powers to frustrate the ban without waiting for the Government's appeal, to be heard in October, against the High Court decision allowing the ban to go ahead.

Mr Dave Wetzel, chairman of the GLC transport committee, yesterday urged lorry firms to apply for a 17-page application form for permits to enter the capital at night from November. He said it would be a "very friendly" lorry ban which would not keep out lorries that had legitimate business in London.

The GLC hoped to issue 25,000 permits allowing lorries in. But he admitted that it had no objective standards on noise, driver training, and routing on the public to issue permits. Indeed it would be illegal to do so on noise levels, he said.

The GLC believes the ban will eliminate half the heavy lorry traffic in the capital at night. It would be so beneficial, Mr Wetzel claimed, that Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Transport, would not dare to overturn it when the GLC went out next spring.

## Mother admits biting son

Susan Stock, aged 22, yesterday admitted at Liverpool Crown Court that she bit and punched her son Christopher, aged four, before he died.

She denied she caused the majority of the numerous injuries to him but admitted biting him on the arm once and punching him in the stomach once.

As she concluded her evidence on the sixth day of the trial, she said her boy friend, Malcolm Poole, aged 28, had punched the boy in the genitals, causing him to bleed.

Stock and Poole, of Duke Street, Birkenhead, both deny murdering the boy and wounding with intent. His body was covered with more than 80 human bite marks.

The trial continues today.

## Man appears on rape charge

A man aged 39 appeared before magistrates at Thetford, Norfolk, yesterday accused of the attempted murder of two Cambridgeshire schoolgirls, raping one, and attempting to rape the other.

About 50 men and women shouted as he was led in and out. He was remanded in custody for three days.

## Sperm plea to be considered

The ethics committee at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, is to discuss an application by Mrs Sonia Palmer, (above) of Page Moss, Merseyside to have a baby using the frozen sperm of her dead husband.

The committee is due to meet in September, but an earlier meeting could be arranged, the hospital said yesterday.

## ITV to carry business information

Business information is to be transmitted throughout Britain from next spring using television signals sent out by Independent Television. The same technique is used by Oracle, the teletext service of ITV, which has a total of about 1,200 pages of information, transmitted on the ITV and Channel 4 channels.

The mobile radio company Aircell is in the final stages of signing a contract with Oracle which will allow the transmission of information on the lines not used by the television companies. Oracle, a teletext service, uses 32 of the 625 broadcast lines which are not needed for the television picture.

The BBC is also investigating the possibility of leasing out teletext capacity.

## 'No cash without number one hit' for singer

The former Bucks Fizz pop singer Jay Aston, would need a number one hit before she could earn a penny as a solo performer for her present record company, her counsel told a High Court judge yesterday.

Mr Jeffrey Gruder told Mr Justice Warner that under her contract with the Bucks Fizz creator, Miss Nichola Martin, Miss Aston would not get an advance before going solo, and would have to pay all her recording costs.

She would have to sell at least 300,000 copies of her first solo single to repay the cost of recording it out of her five per cent royalty fee, counsel said.

As a result, he alleged, "Jay Aston will not even begin to get a penny in her hands until she achieves a number one. Even if she is moderately successful she will not receive a penny under this contract."

Miss Martin's company, Big Note Music Productions, wants to tie Miss Aston to a five-year contract signed in 1981. Big Note is seeking a court order stopping her pursuing a solo career with any other record company.



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# English Catholic bishops question Vatican view of church 'crisis'

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

An unprecedentedly candid criticism of the way the Vatican runs the affairs of the Roman Catholic Church was published by the Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales yesterday.

Breaking with the convention that such things are not discussed in public, the bishops have openly challenged the view, held by senior Vatican officials, that the Catholic Church is in a state of crisis because of false implementation of the Second Vatican Council.

The Council, which was called by Pope John XXIII and which ended in 1965, instituted a programme of important reforms of the Roman Catholic Church. Pope John Paul II has called a special meeting in Rome in November to review the 20 years since then.

The English bishops' document contains a veiled warning that the prospect of Christian unity depends in part on the way the Catholic Church evolves: ecumenism "permeates the whole question of the church".

Similarly the bishops state that the attractiveness of the church to those outside it depends on its "openness". This is a key word in current Roman Catholic debate about the state of the church, with powerful Vatican figures, particularly Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, complaining of too much openness.

What the church in England and Wales wishes to hear, the bishops state, is a "word of encouragement for all who have worked so hard for renewal in the life of the church since the Council".

They accept that the process of renewal is incomplete, and that they themselves have further to go, but the essence of their comments is that authority is still far too centralized in Rome.

The document published yesterday is the official submission of the Episcopal Conference of England and Wales to the International Synod of Bishops, which is due to meet in an extraordinary session in November in Rome.

It is the brief that Cardinal Basil Hume, Archbishop of Westminster and president of the conference, will speak to during that synod.

As he is also president of the Council of European Episcopal Conferences and a member of the synod's preparatory commission, his contributions are expected to carry some weight.

The bishops make various specific criticisms of the Vatican:

- The time for preparation of the synod itself was too short.
- Too many decisions such as the introduction of "communions under both kinds" have to be referred to Rome when they could be dealt with locally.
- There is less involvement in the work of Vatican departments by bishops from outside Rome.
- Insufficient attention is paid to the views of local bishops on new episcopal appointments.
- The handling of priests who wish to be laicized is over-centralized.
- Rules and norms are applied too rigidly.
- Consultation between the Vatican and local bishops' conferences is inadequate.

Monsignor Vincent Nichols, secretary of the bishops' conference, said yesterday that the document was a vote of confidence in the way the Catholic Church was responding to the Second Vatican Council in England and Wales.

Widespread consultation among church members had preceded the document, which was drawn up by a meeting of the bishops earlier this month.

The bishops had been pleasantly surprised by the extent of the renewal of spiritual life of the church shown by the consultation, he said.

The document sums up what the English and Welsh bishops regard as the agenda for the future by saying: "A deepened and developed understanding of the nature of the church requires that the church at each level should establish ways to ensure the exercise both of co-responsibility between laity and clergy, and collegiality of bishops."

"Such structural developments will help to ensure that the church at each level has the capacity to exercise responsibility for its life and worship as a community within the wider communion."

It goes on to suggest that the international synod should itself play a central role as a "more effective expression of collegiality". Local bishops' conferences should be able to operate "without hindrance", and with "greater freedom of decision."

Instead, it says, "bishops and bishops' conferences, in protecting legitimate diversity, often face criticism, misunderstanding, and misrepresentation."

Mr Nichols said that this complaint was directed as much at the Vatican as elsewhere.

The bishops said they recognized that "evangelization", the church's mission to the world, had not received adequate attention in the Catholic Church in England and Wales, which had been more preoccupied so far with internal church matters.



Group Captain Cheshire who as a wartime bomber pilot (top right) was a witness to the bombing of Nagasaki (bottom right) recalling the experience during his interview.

## Cheshire backs nuclear deterrent 40 years on

Group Captain Leonard Cheshire, VC, the wartime bomber pilot who was an eyewitness to the atomic devastation of Nagasaki, is convinced that the nuclear deterrent will prevent a third world war.

His views are expressed in a book, *The Light of Many Saws*, being published next month, and a television programme being screened this week. The fortieth anniversary of the

bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima is on August 9.

He said in an interview with Reuters that he had written the book out of "deep inner compulsion". He decided to do so after filming the TV programme which dealt in part with his return to Nagasaki a year ago. During the visit he withdrew from a bomb anniversary ceremony after survivors complained.

Group Captain Cheshire

believes that the bombing allowed Japan to surrender without fighting to the last man. It also showed the hopelessness of trying to fight a nuclear power.

"The lesson of Nagasaki and Hiroshima is that the side that has the bomb is unfightable. You cannot fight the bomb and survive as a nation."

Asked about his views on continuing research into nuclear weapons, he said that

each superpower should maintain the deterrent at the minimum effective level. "I cannot see how you can stop the advance of technology because it has peaceful as well as military uses."

He also believed that it was in the common interest to put the maximum effort into research in space. "It might prove so exciting that it will unite us."

Spectrum, page 8

## Apology for Parkinson over 'Eye' allegation

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the former Conservative Party chairman, won an apology and his secretary won substantial libel damages in the High Court yesterday over an allegation that they had had an affair.

The allegation in the satirical magazine *Private Eye* in March that Mr Parkinson and his secretary, Mrs Angela Mathew, "were carrying on, and had for some time been carrying on, an adulterous affair" was "totally untrue", their counsel, Mr Robert Alexander, QC, said.

He told Mr Justice Patten that the allegation was without the slightest foundation and had been totally withdrawn by the magazine, which had offered full and unqualified apologies.

Mr Parkinson had agreed to waive his right to damages, while Mrs Mathew accepted substantial undisclosed damages, and the magazine paid all legal costs.

Mr Desmond Browne, for Mr Richard Ingram, the magazine's editor, Pressdram, the publishers, and Feb Edge Litho (1979), the printers, said that they deeply regretted the offence and distress the publication had caused. They tendered their apologies to the plaintiffs and their families.

It was also agreed that there be a permanent injunction forbidding repetition of the allegation. An injunction had been granted in March and the magazine failed to have it lifted in the Court of Appeal when it argued that, because of Mr Parkinson's liaison with Miss Sarah Keays, his former secretary, who gave birth to his baby, he could expect only nominal damages.

## Commentary

Geoffrey Smith

The latest flurry of speculation over the Anglo-Irish negotiations on Northern Ireland has been based upon an inaccuracy. When the British Cabinet discussed the subject last Thursday no decision was taken, or sought, beyond approval for continuing the dialogue. Yet there has been progress over the past month and one now detects a more positive atmosphere.

The broad structure of a possible package deal has been established. Its principal element would be new machinery for consultation between British and Irish ministers and officials on Northern Ireland. This machinery would take the form of a council or committee on which the representation on each side would vary according to the subject under discussion, rather along the lines of the European Council of Ministers. The idea of mixed courts in both north and south - with northern judges on the bench, and vice versa - seems to have been ruled out. The Lord Chief Justice of Northern Ireland, Lord Lowry, has withdrawn his threat last month to resign if such a system were introduced. But there is no reason to suppose that his disapproval would be any the less, and a number of British ministers do not believe that such an arrangement would be feasible.

## Delicate issues to be settled

There remain some delicate issues to be settled, especially in the security field. Once these have been resolved, the British and Irish Cabinets will have to decide whether to go ahead. If they do, there would then be another summit meeting between Mr Thatcher and Dr Garret FitzGerald to provide the formal seal of public agreement. This would take place in late September at the earliest.

It should not be taken for granted, however, that either government will endorse the final product of the negotiations. There are bound to be serious anxieties on both sides.

The Irish Cabinet must be concerned that a purely consultative arrangement, which left the right of decision always in British hands, could expose it to criticism from its own electorate for policies which it had been unable to change. Britain would have the power: Ireland would share the responsibility.

The main British anxiety must be the possibility of a Protestant backlash. One or two ministers made this point strongly at last Thursday's Cabinet meeting. A number of others made it more in passing, but it will be a critical consideration when the final decision is taken.

To minimise Protestant alarm and to win over British sceptics, not least in the Cabinet, it will need to be made absolutely clear that joint consultation does not approximate to joint authority. But that is precisely the opposite of the impression that Irish ministers will be seeking to convey. It is the old problem of what might reassure the Catholics outraging the Protestants.

## Sovereignty no longer option

If British ministers are now the less to take the risk, they will have to be convinced that there is a prize worth seeking. To some extent, the mere fact of an agreement would be its own prize. For Dublin and London to be seen to be marching in step would remove an international embarrassment from the shoulders of the British Government.

When the current dialogue started, the carrot for Britain was the possibility of the Republic's constitution being amended so as to remove the claim to sovereignty over the whole of Ireland. Such amendments are no longer seen as an option because it is not believed that Dr FitzGerald could secure acceptance of them in a referendum. There would still be some value, however, in having the Irish Government formally endorse the fact of partition in a public agreement with the British Government.

But would the kind of agreement that is now in prospect actually bring greater stability on the ground in Northern Ireland? That would depend partly on whether the new consultative machinery impressed the Catholics without igniting the Protestants, but also on the effectiveness of security cooperation. Unless there is reasonable hope of significant improvement in this sphere, the advantages of an agreement for Britain will be largely diplomatic and symbolic.

## Newspaper firms cleared of contempt

A High Court judge lifted the threat of heavy contempt fines and seizure of assets from four Fleet Street publishers yesterday.

Mr Justice Lincoln said, however, that they would be putting themselves in jeopardy if they continued to treat court orders in a "light-hearted way".

The judge, sitting in the Restrictive Practices Court, gave the warning in a reserved judgment, in which he cleared The Daily Telegraph, Ltd, Associated Newspapers, Express Newspapers and Mirror Group Newspapers of contempt of court.

The Director General of Fair Trading had sought orders of sequestration for alleged breaches of undertakings given in 1966 that the publishers would not enter into any

agreement restricting prices and terms of supply to wholesalers.

It was alleged that they had broken the undertakings in July, 1982, when they agreed to lower the rates of discounts to wholesalers to offset the extra costs of moving newspapers by road because of a threatened rail strike.

Although the strike was called off and the agreement never implemented, the publishers had been so preoccupied with the financial threat the strike posed that they had sought no legal advice to see whether their actions were lawful.

Their victory owed nothing to their own conduct but was purely a question of law, he added. He was satisfied that a case had not been made out.

## Saboteurs hunted in gold dive

Police are investigating the sabotage of equipment used by divers searching for sunken gold in the wreck of the Royal Charter, which sank off Anglesey in 1859.

The raiders struck when two of the diving team were asleep in a marquee ashore. A dinghy was sunk, two inflatable craft were dragged out to sea and sunk and an engine was taken to a beach near by and smashed with a hammer. Damage is estimated at between £1,000 and £2,000.

A spokesman for the diving team, Best Speed on Merseyside, which has already recovered gold coins, gold rings, gold nuggets and more than 150 other items from the wreck, said the sabotage attempts would not hinder progress.

## Donation to embryo research after libel

Dr Robert Edwards, one of the test-tube baby pioneers, won an apology for libel and slander in the High Court, in London, yesterday for an attack on his ethics by the British Medical Association.

The BMA and Dr John Havard, its secretary, also agreed to donate an undisclosed sum to the research trust on infertility set up by Dr Edwards and Mr Patrick Steptoe, his partner.

Mr Desmond Browne, for Dr Edwards, told Mr Justice Patten that comments by Dr Havard, which were widely reported, promoted a mistaken impression that Dr Edwards had told a meeting of the Medical Journalists' Association in September 1982, in an address by telephone, that he had experimented on numerous spare live embryos.

Dr Havard, who was at the meeting, had said that the experiments on freezing and cloning went beyond what was ethically acceptable, and Dr Edwards was way ahead of present-day thinking.

A number of newspapers reported these comments in a wounding manner and Dr Edwards had already received damages from them. They had caused him immense distress and embarrassment.

He had always honoured current ethical standards and accepted that Dr Havard and the BMA were acting in good faith as the result of a genuine, though regrettable, misunderstanding of what he had said.

Mr Thomas Shield, for Dr Havard and the BMA, said that they had the highest regard for the work done by Dr Edwards.

## PARLIAMENT JULY 29 1985

### UK view on women's conference

#### HOUSE OF LORDS

Government and Opposition spokesmen disagreed in the House of Lords on the appropriateness of including a statement on the situation in South Africa in the final statement of the Nairobi conference to mark the end of the United Nations decade for women.

Lady Young, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who led the British Government delegation to the conference, made a statement about it. She said that in drafting the final statement some delegations had regretfully insisted on the inclusion of statements on general political issues.

We did not think these helpful to a specialized document and had strong reservations on some of the views expressed, notably on South Africa (she said).

The language was, however, modified during the conference. In particular no intemperate mention of Zionism remained. For this reason and because of the importance we attach to the document on forward-looking strategies as a whole, we joined the final consensus.

Lord Cledwyn of Penrhyn, Leader of the Opposition peers: I do not share her view that it is inappropriate to comment on the terrible events in South Africa.

Lady Seear (L): I am surprised that anybody should be surprised that South Africa should be raised, having regard to what is going on, although I am aware that there is an undue tendency to bring in political matters of great importance but not always of direct relevance.

### No comment on Belgrano report

Lady Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, refused to comment in the House of Lords on the Foreign Affairs Select Committee's report on the sinking of the Argentinean cruiser, the General Belgrano.

Lord Hatch of Lusby (Lab) asked if it had not been unwise for the Government not to give fuller information to Parliament on the events of May 1 and 2, 1982.

Lady Young replied it would not be right to anticipate the Government's response to the committee's report.

Lord Hatch: Would Lady Young not agree with the statement in the report that it would have been preferable if ministers had volunteered a comprehensive report of those events including much of the material extracted from them so painfully over the last three years?

Lady Young: I am not prepared to comment further other than to say the Government's considered reply will be given to the Lords and the Commons at the appropriate time.

Lord Pym of Yeovil (C): This controversy, which to some of us seemed a bit unrealistic from the beginning, has lost some of its original freshness and peers like Lord Hatch would be well advised

to seek other material with which to interest their Lordships.

Lady Young: This matter has on 17 occasions been raised in the Lords: 12 questions, two debates, and three other supplementary questions.

Lord Avebury (L) said the Government should not shelter behind procedure.

Lady Young: There is no question of that. It is the proper constitutional position with reports of Commons' select committees.

### Allegation of delay over aid rejected

An assertion by the Opposition that the Government was playing a delaying game over its contribution to the funding of the International Fund for Agricultural Development was rejected in the House of Lords by Lady Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

Lord Oran (Lab), from the Opposition front bench, had said the main message from Africa in these last months had been that for far too long its agriculture had been neglected by the major donors.

The fund was one of the most effective means of generating aid to the small peasants of Africa and other continents.

The hundreds of thousands contributing voluntarily to help Africa would be disturbed if they knew that the major donor governments were playing a game of "After you, Claude". "No, after you, Cecil" and not making a move because the others would not do so.

Lady Young said the purpose of the fund was to mobilize extra resources to help developing countries with the food production systems. Britain had said she would contribute to the second replenishment as soon as the other participants agreed.

## Grants for rural buses

### Majority of one on rural bus grants

#### TRANSPORT BILL

The Government had a majority of one in the House of Lords on the sixth day of the committee stage of the Transport Bill when an amendment on rural bus grants was rejected by 115 votes to 114.

The House then went on to approve a Government new clause under which grants will be paid to operators to compensate for the loss of cross-subsidy from urban to rural services which will occur following Lord Belstead, moving the new clause, said a total of £50 million over four years would be available for transitional rural bus grants from next April.

This would comprise £20 million in the first year and £15 million, £10 million and £5 million in the following years.

The amendment on which the Government was so nearly defeated was the first of a series moved by Lord Monk Bretton (C) which he said were aimed at ensuring the grants were applied as effectively as possible. His first amendment was that the Government should not move.

Lord Belstead, explaining another new clause, said grants for the establishment, continuance or improvement of rural services would comprise £100,000 a year in Wales and £150,000 a year in Scotland. In England, up to £1 million a year would be available through the development commission for similar purposes.

These "innovation" grants were intended to encourage new thinking about old problems and to act as pump-prime to get schemes off the ground.

Lord Belstead said the two new clauses, together with a group of consequential amendments, would replace a clause in the Bill covering grants for services in rural areas, which was urged the House to remove from the Bill.

There was no change of policy involved, merely more precise definitions.

The House agreed and accepted the new clause dealing with innovation grants.

Lord Belstead said the amendments would remove the four-year limitation on the payment of the special rural grant contained in the new clause.

They would require that the Secretary of State must pay the grant for not less than four years unless by reason of a change in circumstances it became inappropriate to do so.

The White Paper had made clear that this transitional grant would be available for four years and the Government had said it would be so

that operators would have as firm a base as possible on which to plan their services. There was no question of the grant being available for less than four years.

We are dealing (he said) with a grant of £50 million over a period of four years to be paid in the form of subsidies paid by local authorities to the bus undertakings in their areas, a grant designed to ease the transitional period until improvements in the Bill had time to work through.

The amendments would introduce certain factors to which the Secretary of State would have to have regard in considering what additional requirements for eligibility he should impose. The amendments would effectively require him to focus grant only on services which the local authorities selected. This would be very hard on bus operators, although that was not the intention.

Belstead: £50 million for rural bus services

The Bill would enable operators to know at the outset which services would qualify for grant and the system for handling applications would be as simple as possible.

He could not accept that it would be right to limit grant to services which were really only in rural areas. There were many services which ran partly in towns but then extended into the countryside.

Lord Tevot (C) withdrew an amendment to widen the type of bus service eligible for fuel tax rebates after Lord Belstead, had assured him that he would consider sympathetically the effect of the Bill on school bus services.

The Dartmoor Commons Bill was read the third time and passed.

Parliament today

Lords (2.30): Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Bill, committee.

## Lloyds Bank Base Rate

Lloyds Bank Plc has reduced its Base Rate from 12% to 11.5% p.a. with effect from Monday, 29th July 1985.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to Lloyds Bank Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

The change in Base Rate will also be applied from the same date by the United Kingdom branches of Lloyds Bank International Limited.

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## Base Rate Change

With effect from Tuesday, 30th July, 1985 Base Rate changes from 12.00% to 11.50% p.a.

Deposit rates will become:		
	GROSS INTEREST	NET INTEREST
Interest paid half-yearly		
7 days notice	8.00%	5.98%
1 months notice	8.50%	6.35%
Top Tier £2,500 + (3 months notice)	11.25%	8.41%

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## South Africa in crisis

## Tutu snubbed by Botha as death toll in emergency climbs to 18

From Michael Hornsby  
Johannesburg

In a calculated snub, President Botha of South Africa yesterday turned down a request from the Right Reverend Desmond Tutu, the Anglican bishop of Johannesburg, for an urgent meeting to discuss ways of restoring peace to the country's strife-torn black townships.

The President also set new conditions for holding talks which any independent-minded churchman would find it difficult to accept. Previously, President Botha had said he would talk to "anyone who does not propagate violence". Now he says that any interlocutor must first "denounce violence and civil disobedience".

Meanwhile, the number of confirmed arrests since a state of emergency was declared in 36 municipal districts at midnight on July 20 rose to 1,215 yesterday with the release by police headquarters in Pretoria of the latest batch of named detainees. It is an offence to name those arrested without police authority.

Three more deaths were also reported on Sunday and overnight in continued clashes between black protesters and police and Army patrols. This brings the death toll since the emergency was declared to 18, according to unofficial estimates. About 500 people, all but two of them black, have been killed in the past 10 months.

Evidence that the turmoil is spreading to areas outside the emergency zone came from the

Cape Peninsula where African schoolchildren have been boycotting classes since last Friday. The police used rubber bullets and tear gas to disperse about 1,000 children who marched through the Guguletu township near Cape Town. The body of one schoolboy, either dead or unconscious, was seen being carried away by police.

Bishop Tutu's request for a meeting with President Botha, by telephone to the President's office yesterday morning, received the following curt reply: "I said I am prepared to talk to people who denounce violence and civil disobedience. I am meeting Archbishop (Philip) Russell of Cape Town on August 19, 1985, together with a small delegation."

A spokesman in the President's office said that his schedule made it "entirely impossible" for a separate meeting to be arranged with Bishop Tutu before August 19, but that he would not seek to dictate to the Anglican Church whom it should include in its delegation on that date.

An angry Bishop Tutu told *The Times*: "Ours is a desperate situation which calls for statesmanship, but we are being involved in political games by someone who is trying to make political capital out of it. It is not as if we have all the time in the world to find a solution to the unrest."

The bishop made clear his support for civil disobedience - "an unjust law cannot command obedience" - and said he did not think he could take part

in the August 19 meeting on the conditions set. He also believed that other churchmen would find it difficult.

Archbishop Russell, the head of the Anglican Church in southern Africa, is overseas and is not due back until August 14, so it is not certain that he will be prepared to take part on August 19.

Earlier this month, the Anglican Synod came out in support of the campaign to end military conscription of whites, which amounts to a form of civil disobedience.

Observers here noted that despite his allegedly "tight schedule", President Botha has still managed to find the time this Thursday to meet a delegation of businessmen to discuss the unrest, thus rubbing salt in the wound caused by his rebuff of Bishop Tutu. Why he should have thrown away the chance of making an easy gesture of reconciliation is a mystery.

● **COPENHAGEN:** A group of about 15 youths wearing hoods to hide their faces raided the South African Consulate General in Copenhagen yesterday, smashing green paint, wrecking furniture and throwing smoke bombs (AP reports).

The raiders, who shouted slogans against apartheid and the state of emergency, carried out their action so quickly that they had all vanished when police reached the scene in central Copenhagen.

A police duty officer said there was no report of injuries. Bernard Levin, page 10



Refugees washing their clothes at the Mekele camp, which may soon be closed.

## Famine victims to quit camp

Addis Ababa (Reuters) - Ethiopia is planning to close its largest famine relief camp to persuade refugees to go home to till the land, according to Mr Dawit Wolde Giorgis, Commissioner of Relief and Rehabilitation.

Registration of people had started at Mekele camp, about 300 miles north of here, he said. About 40,000 people, many living in tents, are expected to register to return, but there is a chronic shortage of seed grain and tools.

The exercise would go ahead, with peasants screened to see if they were medically fit and given food at distribution centres around their villages,

some of which are up to 60 miles from the camp.

The exercise is part of a countrywide effort to get refugees to grow food during the current rainy season and stop their dependence on handouts.

There are 80,000 people at Mekele camp. About half have arrived in recent weeks and are not fit enough for the trek home, officials say.

Dawit said thousands of people at Mekele, south of Addis Ababa, should be evacuated in a similar way, but there was not enough food, seed or tools.

Since March the Addis Ababa government has been appealing to the West to provide seed grain and basic

tools to help the peasants return to their traditional life.

No government had provided cash aid, he said. Italy had promised \$1.8 million (about £1.3 million) worth of tools, but only a small proportion had arrived.

Relief officials believe only a few weeks remain in which the peasants can plant the staple teff, a cereal unique to Ethiopia. With rain now falling over much of northern Ethiopia, however, there is still time for cabbages and potatoes.

Journalists who visited Mekele, capital of Tigré province, were told last week that the entire population would walk home tomorrow if seeds and tools were available.

## Canada firm against sanctions

By Henry Stanhope  
Diplomatic Correspondent

Canada joined Britain yesterday in opposing sanctions against South Africa. Its External Affairs Minister, Mr Joe Clark, said he was very sceptical about their effectiveness.

Instead he proposed exploratory talks in which the Commonwealth might help to open a dialogue between the Pretoria Government and its political opponents.

It was thought that a single nation might be more effective, he made clear in what is seen as an important statement of government policy, that Canada would be ready to take on the task.

He did not think it necessary until the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Nassau in October to take action.

Mr Clark's doubts about sanctions must have warmed the heart of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, who was accused of isolating Britain when he firmly opposed sanctions in a speech to the Royal Commonwealth Society less than a week ago.

Speaking to the same society yesterday while in London on his way to the gathering of foreign ministers in Helsinki, Mr Clark said he doubted whether sanctions would help or hinder the co-operation he sought from industry.

Canada has already announced a package of measures against South Africa, including a stricter code of conduct for companies with operations in the country.

After his speech, Mr Clark said that the effect would be to make observance of the code less voluntary. A full-time administrator would run it and a list would be published showing the world which companies had failed to comply.

## US floundering in search of a policy

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Washington has called for an end to the state of emergency in South Africa and for urgent talks between the government and black opposition leaders. But behind the tough words, a vexed and confused Reagan Administration is fighting hard to ward off congressional sanctions and to save its policy of "constructive engagement", quiet diplomacy, which is under increasing attack at home and abroad.

The South African crisis threatens to humiliate the Administration both in Congress and overseas. Having been forced to abstain in the UN Security Council vote on Friday on voluntary sanctions, the White House is bracing itself for another defeat this week on Capitol Hill, where the demand for a tougher line is almost certain to lead to some form of sanctions.

In an effort to keep sanctions to a minimum, the Administration is insisting that they would hurt mainly the blacks. It says the unrest does not yet threaten Pretoria, nor has South Africa reached a "revolutionary or pre-revolutionary situation".

While voicing forcefully its repugnance to apartheid, the White House is still keeping open the door to senior level talks between American and South African officials.

But things may be moving too fast. Washington is losing patience rapidly with Pretoria's refusal to make any real change. The Administration is still nursing its anger over the recent South African incursion into Cabinda, the Angolan enclave in which American oilmen are working, and many are increasingly aware that US credibility on human rights and in the Third World is being undermined by Soviet propaganda over apparent support for a racist regime.

A clear point has developed

## Iranian pilgrims' progress

By Our Foreign Staff

Saudi Arabia backed down yesterday in a dispute over the number of Iranians to be allowed to make this year's pilgrimage to Mecca.

Earlier Iran had announced it was cancelling all pilgrim flights in protest against a Saudi decision to send back two which had tried to land at Jeddah overnight.

The pilgrimage is due to start on August 10, and pilgrims are already assembling in the region.

According to Iran radio, Saudi Arabia had said on Sunday night that it would allow only 100,000 Iranian pilgrims, instead of the 150,000 Iran proposed.

But yesterday the Saudi state-owned Riyadh radio quoted an unidentified Saudi official as saying the Saudi Government had advised Tehran the same number of Iranians would be allowed in as last year - about 155,000.

According to the official, the dispute was about the airport's capacity and the need "to enable responsible officials to guarantee the peace and safety of the pilgrims".

There has been recurrent friction between the two countries on ideology.

## Shevardnadze and Shultz to meet tomorrow

From Olli Kivinen, Helsinki

Foreign ministers attending the tenth anniversary meeting of the signing of the Helsinki Final Act of the European Security Conference, due to begin today, will hold a number of bilateral and multilateral meetings during their three days here.

The most important will be the first meeting between the US Secretary of State, Mr George Shultz, and the new Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, tomorrow. They are expected to prepare the US-Soviet summit later this year.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, will meet the Soviet Foreign Minister on Thursday morning.

During the anniversary meeting each foreign minister will make a speech, but no negotiations will be held, nor will the conference issue a joint statement.

The meeting will be in the Finlandia Hall in Helsinki, where the Final Act was signed 10 years ago. Security is extremely tight and the conference hall has been made into a virtual fortress.

Hundreds of police have been brought in from all over the country, and armoured troops are guarding Helsinki airport. There has been no trouble, but Finland's open frontiers mean that security must be concentrated in the capital, as it is nearly impossible to detect potential terrorists on entry.

Helsinki's traffic was dislocated yesterday because the foreign ministers are being whisked back and forth in fast limousines to minimize the danger of terrorist attacks.

The only demonstrations took place on Sunday when a group of refugees from the Baltic countries demanded freedom for Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. There were minor scuffles in front of the Soviet Embassy and three people were briefly detained.

● Mr Shevardnadze later made his international debut with a call for a radical improvement in the East-West political climate (AP reports).

He reserved comment on his forthcoming meeting with Mr Shultz. "We will have to see," he said. "It is not necessary to be too hasty in these matters."

In a statement at the airport he said: "We are convinced that the current tense situation in the world calls for joint efforts aimed at radically improving the political climate in Europe and in international relations as a whole."

Soviet and American officials said Mr Shevardnadze and Mr Shultz would talk about weapons, human rights and the November summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev.

unwillingness to attend if some countries failed to do so has been a problem.

In announcing the summit himself, King Hassan has in effect bypassed the 21-member Arab League, which would normally arrange such a meeting.

The league's secretary-general, Mr Chedli Klibi, was told of the decision only hours before the announcement.

Only two days before, he had told the king that his contacts with Arab leaders led him to believe a summit was not possible.

Defence Committee to bar publication of details of its deliberations.

But ministers from several parties have made plain during the public debate of the past week that they favour removing legal barriers to selective deportation and administrative arrest set up by the government of Mr Menachem Begin after peace with Egypt in 1979.

Most Likud ministers, headed by the Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, have also made plain that they favour the death penalty for particularly brutal killings. Hanging remains on the Israeli statute book, but

## President says he feels fine

From Michael Binyon  
Washington

President Reagan says he will be the first to say he should step down if he is ever incapacitated and unable to carry out his job as President properly.

But he said in an interview with *Time* magazine that he could not foresee anything of that kind happening. He based that not just on his own judgement but on what he had been told by his doctors.

He felt "fine". Every day he was amazed at the improvement, and the sore spots were going away - although he still had an "Ilin scar" on his stomach. Unlike President Johnson, he would not show this to the public.

He was going to do exactly what his doctors told him. He no longer had cancer, he insisted, but was apparently vulnerable to it and would therefore go for regular check-ups. But the fear of cancer would not intrude into his life. "I've never been that way about things of that kind."

Asked how he had managed to remain unaffected after two brushes with death during his term of office, Mr Reagan replied: "I have a very real and deep faith. Probably I'm indebted to my mother for that. And I figure that he will make a decision, and I can't doubt that whatever he decides will be the right decision."

He added that his wife had become more a part of the Presidency in the past two weeks, but added: "Nancy is a mother hen. Let something happen to one of the family and they become the chick. Being a surgeon's daughter, she is very insistent that no one is going to overwork me. And that includes me."

She had put a cabbage-patch doll in a nurse's uniform named Nancy beside his bed to remind him to rest while she was gone.

The President denied that Mr Donald Reagan, the White House Chief of Staff, had assumed too much power during his illness. He was carrying out what Mr Reagan had told him - including the message to Vice-President Bush to stay in Maine during the operation, so that he could recover from his trip to Europe.

Correction

China is to spend up to \$20 billion (£14 billion) by the year 2000 on a major power programme, not \$210 billion as stated in a report in Wednesday's paper.

## Coups leaders leave Uganda opposition worried for future

By Richard Dowden

There was mounting disquiet among Ugandan opposition groups yesterday as the country's new military leaders swore in a head of state without consulting them and giving only vague commitments to a democratic future.

Mr Yoweri Museveni, leader of the National Resistance Movement which has been fighting a guerrilla war against the Obote Government since 1981, was still in Göteborg, Sweden, yesterday waiting for a message of reconciliation from the new leaders.

On Sunday he welcomed the coup and a spokesman for his movement said he was optimistic that talks between the coup leaders and commanders of the rebel movement would lead to a civilian government of national unity.

But even more worrying for the opposition groups was the news that Mr Paulo Muwanga, the former Vice-President, was telephoning leading politicians in Kampala yesterday acting apparently on behalf of the new military rulers. Mr Muwanga was seen by some as even more powerful than President Obote and directly responsible for many of the actions of the former regime.

According to Mr John Sebana Kizito, the foreign affairs spokesman for the Democratic Party in Uganda, Mr Muwanga was at his Kampala home and had contacted a number of politicians yesterday.

Mr Kizito, speaking by telephone from Kampala, said that the DP leader, Mr Paulo Semugere, had attended the swearing-in ceremony yesterday afternoon but had not yet been offered formal talks by the new leaders.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office in London said last night that all Britons in Uganda had been accounted for and were safe. "One or two got caught up in the looting and one had his house broken into but it was nothing against Britain as such," he said.

Man in the news

## A father figure at the helm

By Our Foreign Staff

Lieutenant-General Tito Okello, sworn in yesterday as Chairman of Uganda's new Military Council, is a "straight old-fashioned King's African Rifles soldier", a British Army officer who recently helped train the Uganda Army, said yesterday. "He is very much the father figure of the Army."

The British officer, who did not wish to be named, said Lieutenant-General Okello was disciplined and was quick to point out that he was quite unlike Idi Amin, another former King's African Rifles soldier who got on well with the British officers.

"He had immense respect for his training and was very good at arranging the passing out ceremonies and the Independence Day parade," the officer said. It would be in character for him to be asked to preside after a coup by some of his younger fellow Acholi officers.

The officer was less complimentary about Brigadier Basilio Olara Okello, the coup leader, who is also Acholi but no relation, and who passed through the British Army training course at Jinja barracks in 1982. He said he was not well disciplined and was not liked by the British team.

Lieutenant-General Okello is aged 71 and has been the Army commander since 1979. He was born in Namukora village, Muchwini, in northern Kitgum district, the sixth of eight children.

He ended his school career in 1938 to work as a cotton sales clerk at Namukora but like many of his fellow Acholi he joined the King's African Rifles in 1940 and fought in Somalia and Burma. At the end of the war he went to Kenya as an instructor and returned to Uganda in 1955 as a non-commissioned officer.

He was commissioned in 1962 just before independence and was briefly the Army Chief of Staff in 1970.

When President Obote was first overthrown in 1971 he fled to Tanzania and commanded troops of exiles in the overthrow of President Amin in 1979.

In a broadcast on Uganda radio on Sunday night he said he had only heard about the coup on the radio but made clear his support

## Syrians claim children killed in Bekaa air raid

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

For the eighth time this year Israeli jets staged an air raid on Lebanon yesterday, dropping bombs around a Palestinian guerrilla base in the Bekaa Valley controlled by the Libyan-backed "Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command" near the village of Barr Elias.

Two Israeli planes staged the attack which, according to the Syrian Army Command in Damascus, killed "women and children and old men" as well as guerrillas. The Israeli Military Command in Tel Aviv said that all their planes returned to their airfields after "accurate" hits on the building.

The raid took place as the Syrians continued their initiative to bring some form of order to West Beirut after months of anarchy, urging both Druze and Shia Muslim militias to allow Lebanese Army's Sixth Brigade to keep the peace in the Muslim sector of the capital.

Mr Walid Jumblatt, the Druze leader, and Mr Nabih Berri, the Shia Amal leader, both ministers in the Lebanese Government - travelled to Damascus on Sunday after a private conference at the Druze town of Moukhtara, at which they agreed that gunmen should be withdrawn from the streets.

There has for several days been an unaccustomed peace in Muslim areas of the city, with no kidnaps, few robberies and only the usual mortar fire across the "green line" - between the Christian and Muslim sectors - to break the political and military silence.

He had sheltered an Israeli boy, Guy Ravich, aged nine, whom he found lost in a cove of trees not far from where the teachers' bodies were found on Friday.

There has been speculation that he may have been led to kill the teachers "to wipe out the shame of having received an award from the Zionist enemy".

Israeli forces on Sunday destroyed three homes belonging to the suspects in Arabuneh, a normally peaceful village of fewer than 1,000 people which has not been involved in guerrilla activity.

Meanwhile the Israeli media yesterday gave more details of the three suspects arrested in connection with the deaths of the teachers, Mr Yosef Eliahu and Miss Lea Elmaki.

One of them, Mr Nawwas Abdullah Mahmoud al-Arab, of the village of Arabuneh, near Jenin in the occupied West Bank, received a special good citizenship award from the Israeli police in December.



Geoffrey Smith



# Philippines war of words rages over extent of the Communist threat

From Paul Routledge, Manila

The Philippines Government and its critics are almost totally at variance in their estimates of the security threat posed by the Communist New People's Army as opposition fears of a reimposition of martial law grow.

General Eduardo Ermita, spokesman for the Armed Forces of the Philippines, calculates that the insurgents can be neutralized - if not destroyed - "within a year or so".

But through its own clandestine channels, the NPA, military wing of the Communist Party, has predicted "major developments" in the next 90 days and foresees a "strategic stalemate" with government forces in the next three to five years.

Such a scenario would lift the war from its present guerrilla context and bring the insurgents into pitched battles. The next stage, according to the jargon of the NPA, would be a "strategic offensive" aimed at winning direct control of the cities.

Western diplomats in Manila regard General Ermita's prediction as unduly optimistic, but they also ridicule claims advanced by the Communist rebels that they can muster 25,000 to 30,000 armed men. The armed forces own intelligence estimate of 10,000 to 12,000 insurgents is regarded as much nearer the mark. Even so, the NPA is lying down more than 50,000 regular soldiers and another 30,000 to 40,000 armed policemen - not far short of half the country's security forces.

The sharp divergence of military calculations between the Government and the Communists demonstrates the strategic level to which the propaganda war has been raised in the running Filipino conflict.

The Armed Forces have begun publishing a fortnightly paper, *The People's Sentinel*, aimed at winning back lost public support for the military. The first issue admitted, "an apparent decline in discipline and morale among some men in uniform, compounded by a deterioration in the operational effectiveness of the Armed Forces".

On the same front page, the military insisted that strong disciplinary measures were being taken against "scoundrels", the quaint term used for offenders such as the five policemen discharged "as a result of killing a mayor". All told, 2,074 men have been disciplined in the first six months of this year, nearly a third of them for going absent without leave. However, 721 have been punished for committing criminal offences ranging from assault to homicide.

In his Camp Aguinaldo headquarters in Quezon City, General Ermita told *The Times* rebels that the pattern of surrender established when the Muslim Moro National Liberation Front ended its revolt in Mindanao and Sulu, would be repeated when the NPA realized that it could not win its self-proclaimed "protracted people's war". In readiness for widespread desertions, a rehabilitation programme designed to

ensure the rebels to society is awaiting presidential approval.

"In this war, there are no established battlefields, and no battle lines", he added. "He who wins the military support wins the war. That is why we are seeking to build a better understanding among the people of the threat posed by the Communists. We are strengthening our democratic institutions so that the people can feel that there is a good government."

"But we have also to destroy the Communists' military capability", said General Ermita. Asked how long that would take, he replied: "Within a year or so we should be able to accomplish that - neutralization if not destruction."

However, a disturbing survey attributed to US military sources in the Manila press last week suggested that 78 per cent of the 54 million Filipinos "either support or are indifferent to" the NPA. Of these, 22 per cent "could easily be fully supportive" of the insurgents.

The opposition newspaper *Malaya* quoted a US senator, Mr John Kerry (Democrat, Massachusetts), as saying that the Communists continue to gain control in the countryside "while the Marcos regime continues to lose support among the population. At the current growth rate of the NPA there is the possibility of a military stalemate within the short period of perhaps four to five years."

## Trial erupts over money claim

Manila (AP) - Two defence witnesses in the Benigno Aquino murder trial said yesterday that a private prosecutor had told them they would come into "big money" if they revealed what they knew of the assassination. The prosecution called them liars.

"Rascal" the attorney, Mr Lupino Lazaro, blurted out in Tagalog after Mr Lino Parungao, aged 30, made the allegation in open court. Leaping from his seat, Mr Lazaro glared at the witness and shouted: "That's a lie."

The presiding judge, Mr Manuel Pamaran, banged his

gavel and said: "Attorney Lazaro, keep your calm."

Mr Lazaro is the lawyer of the family of Rolando Galman, the man the military claims killed Mr Aquino, the former opposition leader, and is a private prosecutor in the trial of 25 soldiers and a civilian charged with the murders of Mr Aquino and of Mr Galman. Mr Lazaro says the assassination was a military conspiracy and Mr Galman a scapegoat.

Mr Parungao, a school janitor, is the brother of Mr Galman's wife, who disappeared after the assassination.

Mr Lazaro has expressed fears that she has been "liquidated".

Mr Parungao and a sister, Estelita Lacasmana, aged 26, who preceded him to the stand, gave nearly identical statements which disputed the testimony of a 12-year-old son of Mr Galman, linking a colonel and the military to the assassination.

Under cross-examination, Mr Parungao acknowledged that Mr Lazaro had not told him and his sister what to tell investigators. He said Mr Lazaro had not explained how they would get "big money" and they had not asked.

## Witnesses identify ETA Admiral shot dead in Madrid street

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

Spain's Director-General of Defence Policy was shot dead here yesterday in a daylight attack on city streets. It resembled the assassination of an army colonel last month by the Basque extremist group, ETA.

Rear-Admiral Fausto Escrigas Estrada was travelling by car from his flat by his office at about 8.30 am when a car ahead stopped, blocking the way.

Two men stepped out and at least one fired at the admiral's car with a sub-machine-gun. He died within minutes and his civilian driver was seriously wounded.



Admiral Escrigas Estrada: attacked in his car

Police found the getaway car loaded with explosives in another part of the city. The neighbourhood was evacuated while a bomb disposal crew went to work. One clock-activated device was reportedly defused, but the car blew up. Within minutes of the killing, national and municipal police and the paramilitary civil guard began "Operation Cage", establishing checkpoints on all roads leading from the capital.

Admiral Escrigas Estrada, born in 1925 in General Franco's birthplace of El Ferrol, joined the Spanish Navy in 1943 and became one of Spain's top military officers.

Witnesses, shown police photographs, identified a member of the military wing of ETA as one of the killers. Police said the man belonged to the "Spain Squad" of ETA, the unit used in the attack here on June 12.

That day, when European heads of government were arriving for the signing of the document making Spain an eventual member of the EEC, ETA defied security in the capital and killed Colonel Vicente Romero and his driver in an attack on their car in a busy main street.

## Mafia kills top police investigator

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The murder on Sunday night near Palermo of the police inspector who had been successfully leading a special squad to round up high-level Mafia fugitives, has shocked the Sicilian capital and broken an unofficial Mafia truce.

The Palermo municipal council decided yesterday to seek not only an urgent meeting with Signor Oscar Scalfaro, the Minister of the Interior, but also a visit to Palermo by President Cossiga.

Signor Scalfaro immediately left for Palermo where he attended the funeral of the inspector Giuseppe Montana, and then presided over an emergency meeting with the chief of police, local police officers and the special commissioner appointed by the Government in the struggle against the Mafia.

Signor Montana, aged 34, was widely respected in Palermo for his skill in tracking down criminals. He led a group of 20 young men whose activities were little known to the public but increasingly feared by the Mafia.

The murder broke an unofficial truce in the Mafia's attacks on police. The truce had lasted about a year and been reinforced by the effects of the first confessions made by leading Mafia personalities.

There had been a feeling that the Mafia would remain quiet until the start of a huge trial, involving nearly a thousand accused, in Palermo at the end of the year.

Instead, two killers followed Signor Montana to the small fishing village of Porticello on Sunday where he spent the day in his boat. When he returned to shore they were waiting.

He is the most important policeman to die at the hands of the Mafia since the murder in July, 1979, of Boris Giuliano, head of Palermo's mobile squad.

President Garcia, who was elected on April 14 with 53 per cent of the vote, described Peru's economic and social crisis in stark terms, but committed himself to ending guerrillas designed to disrupt the first transfer of power from one freely elected Peruvian President to another since 1912.

Both the outgoing President, Señor Fernando Belaunde Terry, and Señor Garcia travelled to the inauguration through plazas and streets lined with heavily armed troops. Ordinary Peruvians were barred from the areas. On Saturday afternoon a car bomb exploded outside the offices of the joint military command.

In his speech, Señor Garcia proposed the formation of a peace commission to seek ways to end the five-year guerrilla war, and held out the possibility of pardons for those who return to democracy.

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He gave special emphasis to intensifying the fight against drug traffickers who supply much of the coca paste that is transformed into cocaine in Colombia and then smuggled into the United States.

President Garcia urged Latin American countries to curb arms spending and said Peru would not buy all 26 Mirage fighters it ordered from France in 1982.

NEW YORK: Komal S. Sri-Kumar, a former banker who runs a consulting service about Latin American finances, said President Garcia's statement about limiting debt payments was more significantly politically than financially.

"Peru alone will not be enough to sink any foreign bank," Sri-Kumar said. "But Peru sets a precedent for other countries. From that perspective, bankers need to be worried about Lima."

He said officials in Mexico, Brazil and the Argentine were closely following the situation in Peru and might develop a harder line in debt talks if President Garcia's approach succeeded.

Leading article, page 11

## State Department defied by 'supercomputer' buffs

Princeton, New Jersey (AP) - Officials at a "supercomputer" complex under construction here have refused a State Department suggestion to bar some foreigners from using the machine, the centre's financial officer said.

Soviet, Chinese and other foreign nationals will be allowed to use the computer at the John von Neumann Centre for Scientific Computing when the Federally-funded Cyber 205 becomes operational early next year, Mr Allen Sinigaglia said.

The State Department does not fear illicit use of the computers, as they would contain no restricted information, Mr Sinigaglia said. But the Government is concerned that hostile users might gain an advantage simply by learning to use the powerful machines.

## Nature conservation in Jordan: Part 2 Turtles leave Aqaba despite clean-up

In his second article on nature conservation in Jordan, Alan McGregor examines the campaign to keep the Gulf of Aqaba clean.

The first thing an Aqaba port pilot does on reaching the bridge of an incoming ship is to hand the captain a special letter. After welcoming words, it politely requests his total co-operation in maintaining an exacting standard of cleanliness, alongside or lying off. There are a score or more vessels most days of the year in Jordan's sole maritime outlet.

The letter also details the mandatory fines, and possible imprisonment, for violations of this strict code. These range from a few Jordanian dinars for the odd beer can slipped overboard to 10,000 dinars (20,000) for deliberate actions such as emptying bilges or tanks. Offenders are brought to court within hours. Fines last year totalled about 100,000 dinars.

Ships are provided with, and must sign for, a supply of large reinforced nylon bags for garbage. A service boat goes round daily to collect them.

Tourists receive a similar letter, asking them to help in protecting beaches from pollution. It points out that fines of up to 100 dinars are imposed

for leaving litter elsewhere than in the bins provided, for spear fishing and for collecting or buying shells or corals.

Compliance with these rigorous standards is enforced by inspectors employed by the Jordanian Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, patrolling the beaches and using a fast launch for the harbour and bay.

An hour's trip in this craft, out along the buoys marking the sea frontier with Israel, down the coast past the oil and container terminals and the phosphates, potash and fertilizer loading quays, around big freighters unloading on to lighters, resulted in the sighting of nothing more than a couple of empty cigarette packets.

"It's difficult for some people to realize that even ice-cream sticks and bottle tops left on the beach can mean a fine and it's no excuse to blame the children," Inspector Hachin Schemella said. He keeps a sharp watch for the occasional spear gun brought by car. At the airport, such items are seized by Customs for return on departure.

In the opinion of Maher Abu Jafar, the royal society director, "this Aqaba watch is proving very effective so far. By

comparison with most coast areas, not just ports, it's very clean. We look after our side and our neighbours do the same for theirs." Doing so is less of a problem for the Israeli port of Eilat, handling only about 100 ships a year, compared with Aqaba's 2,500.

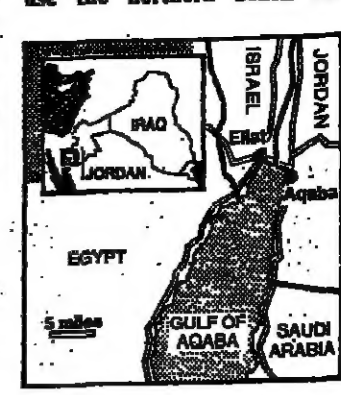
That seems likely to change, however, with the creation of an Eilat free port zone. A more imminent threat to the head of the Gulf is the projected pipeline from Iraq for exporting its fuel oil via Aqaba.

International conservation bodies have been invited to study safeguards to minimize what the royal society president, Ais Mousharraf, refers to as "the risk of accidents inseparable from transporting oil round the world".

However, Aqaba appears at first acquaintance - reddish mountains on both shores of a deep blue sea and palm trees down to the beach - the juxtaposition of port, industrial installations and holiday areas along Jordan's mere 17 miles of coastline is inevitably telling on the marine environment.

This is apparent first to those scuba-diving enthusiasts coming regularly for a decade or more. "It's rare now to see a fish over 3ft long," one said,

"They're either very deep or, because of the shipping, they're been scared off and gone further south. Same for turtles. They can be spotted sometimes at night but they can no longer use the northern beach for



laying eggs and have moved down to Saudi Arabia where they won't be disturbed."

About nine miles of the coastal shallows - the narrow gulf, part of the Great Rift Valley, drops sharply to depths of 4,000 ft - have been "completely colonized by human activities", as one expert put it.

While every device is applied to reduce it, dust from the phosphate-loading terminal

has weakened coral growth on the reef and fish have moved to richer pastures. More dramatic is destruction caused by anchors and chains of big ships as they turn round into the freshening northerly breeze, crushing perhaps 100sq ft of corals at a time.

The royal society is asking the Aqaba regional authority to provide permanent moorings in the form of buoys chained to concrete blocks 150ft down on the sea-bed. This would also avoid the occasional loss of an expensive anchor in coral beds too deep for professional divers to reach.

So far, according to Dr Ahmed Abul Hail, director of the Marine Research Station, which receives post-graduate students from a score of countries, the ecological balance is holding. Filter feeders, such as mussels and sea urchin eggs, are kept at outlets from the new sewage treatment plant and industrial installations to monitor changes.

The steady wind from the north-east helps to keep the head of the gulf, five miles across at that point, salubrious. Beaches and rocks are free of tar or oil spills. Can they keep it that way?

Concluded

## Peru limits its debt payments of £10bn

Lima (NYT) - In the most radical move by a Latin American debtor nation, Peru has announced that it will limit payments on its foreign debt in the next 12 months to no more than 10 per cent of its export earnings.

President Garcia said in his inaugural address that Peru would limit its debt payments as it sought to renegotiate its \$14 billion (£10 billion) foreign debt. He said Peru planned deal directly with its creditors without the involvement of the International Monetary Fund, which he described as an accomplice in the country's acute economic crisis.

It represents the most daring challenge to existing monetary rules since the start of the Latin American debt crisis three years ago and seems certain to cause consternation in international banking circles.

The inauguration was marked by extreme security measures after a wave of car bombings by guerrillas designed to disrupt the first transfer of power from one freely elected Peruvian President to another since 1912.

Both the outgoing President, Señor Fernando Belaunde Terry, and Señor Garcia travelled to the inauguration through plazas and streets lined with heavily armed troops. Ordinary Peruvians were barred from the areas. On Saturday afternoon a car bomb exploded outside the offices of the joint military command.

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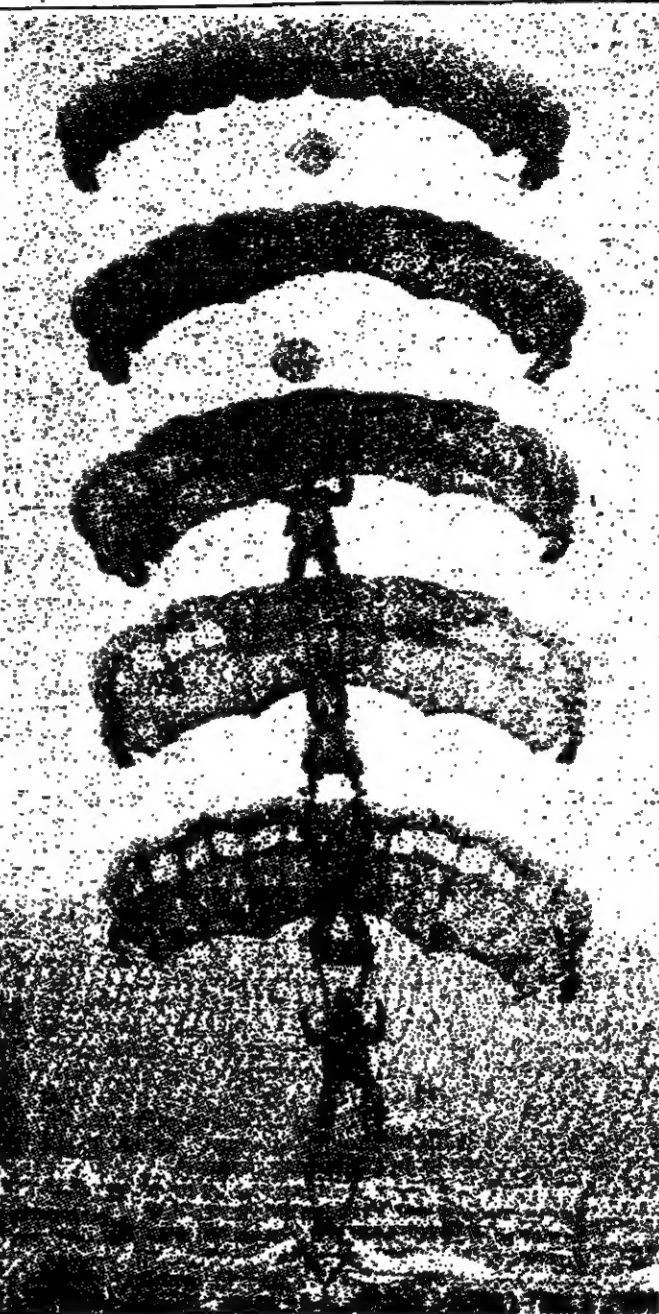
Leading article, page 11

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The State Department does not fear illicit use of the computers, as they would contain no restricted information, Mr Sinigaglia said. But the Government is concerned that hostile users might gain an advantage simply by learning to use the powerful machines.



Five daring young Taiwanese skydivers flying through the air over Taipei with the greatest of ease to show off their armed forces paratroop training.

## Shuttle mission highlights

Highlights of the week-long Challenger shuttle mission which, with its new European Space Agency-developed space laboratory, will study the Sun, stars and space environment:

Crew: Air Force Colonel Charles Fullerton, aged 48, commander; Air Force Colonel Roy Bridges, aged 41, pilot; Karl Henize, aged 58, astronomer, the oldest man to go into space; Anthony England, aged 43, geophysicist; Story Musgrave, aged 49, medical doctor; Loren Acton, aged 48, solar physicist; John-David Barbee, aged 41, astrophysicist.

Launch site: Kennedy Space Centre, Florida.  
Launch date: July 29, at 2033 EST.  
Orbital inclination: 49.5 degrees.  
Mission duration: Six days, 23 hours, 12 minutes.  
Orbits: 109 full orbits; land on orbit 110.  
Landing date: August 5.  
Primary Landing Site: Edwards Air Force Base, California.  
Scientific Experiments: Thirteen experiment teams on the ground, 11 from the US and two from Britain, have been directing investigations in solar

physics, atmospheric physics, plasma physics, infra-red astronomy, high-energy astrophysics, technology research and life sciences. Ten of these require direct exposure to space and are mounted on unpressurized platforms in the special support structure inside the shuttle's payload bay which turns the spacelab into a unique orbiting observatory.

The challenger will also see the "battle of the colas" - Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola have their drinks on board to test experimental cans for use by astronauts.

## First Aids victim in China

Peking (AFP) - The disease Aids has claimed its first victim in China with the death of a 34-year-old Argentine tourist in hospital, the *China Daily* reported yesterday.

It quoted Mr Fei Xuying, a spokesman for the hospital, as saying the victim died early in June five days after being admitted with "very serious symptoms" of Aids.

Hospital officials said the Argentine, travelling in China before heading for California, was in critical condition when he was admitted to a ward reserved for foreigners.

The newspaper reported that an American friend of the victim, contacted by telephone, said the Argentine was a homosexual. The virus was first linked to homosexuals and other groups, but has since appeared in other people.

"There have never been any confirmed cases of Aids in China before this," Mr Fei said. Early this year, the *China Daily* quoted Mr Zeng Yi, vice-director of China's national centre of preventive medicine, as saying that the centre had begun blood tests to detect Aids and boost preventive efforts.

## Thai minister's suicide challenged by press

Bangkok (AFP) - Thailand's Minister of Science, Technology and Energy committed suicide in his car on his way to an important policy meeting yesterday, police said. The account was challenged by an associate and at least one newspaper.

Police said that Mr Damrong Lathapipat's driver told them that the minister, aged 53, shot himself in his car as it was about to enter the Government House compound to discuss a controversial economic plan.

The chauffeur said Mr Damrong, deputy chief of the Democrat Party, fired a shot from a pistol at his right temple. He died almost two hours later in hospital without regaining consciousness, doctors said. But a Democrat Party mem-

ber, Mr Charoen Kanthawong, said he doubted that Mr Damrong had shot himself. He said the minister had telephoned a number of people and asked them to meet him that day. "A person who wants to commit suicide would hardly be in the mood to ring others for a meeting", Mr Charoen said.

The Bangkok *World* newspaper quoted an unidentified close relative of Mr Damrong as dismissing the suicide story. The relative, an elderly woman, said Mr Damrong had no reason to kill himself.

The national police chief said the minister committed suicide but no motive was immediately suggested for such an action, which came amid rumours in the past few months of a possible government reshuffle.

## Three fight Iran poll

Iran's Council of Guardians has approved three candidates for the presidential election on August 16, the national news agency Irna said (Reuters reports).

They are President Ali Khamenei, seeking a second term, the former Economy Minister, Mr Habibollah Asgari-Owadi, and Mr F. Mahmoud Mostafaei Kashani, a clergy-

Fifty people had filed for nomination, including the former Prime Minister, Mr Mehdi Bazargan, leader of the only legal opposition party, the Freedom Movement.

The 12-man council, which vets the Islamic orthodoxy of Iranian legislation, is empowered by the 1979 constitution to select presidential candidates



Congo Claude-Ernest Ndalla

By Caroline Moorehead  
A civil servant, who became prominent in Congolese politics in the sixties and gathered around him the non-violent opposition to the Government, has been held for more than a year in a detention centre on the edge of Brazzaville known as the *Cité des 17*. Claude-Ernest Ndalla, who is in his late forties, has been kept for much of that time incommunicado.

## PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

From 1969 to 1971 Mr Ndalla was First Secretary of the ruling *Parti congolais du travail* (PCT). But then, after an attempted coup in 1972, he was imprisoned, so beginning a series of arrests, releases and rearrests that have continued ever since.

The Congolese authorities have now said that they suspect him of committing an offence against the internal security of the state. Not long before a congress of the PCT in July 1984 he is reported to have been induced - under the influence of drugs - to confess to involvement in two bomb explosions in Brazzaville in March and May 1982. His confession is said to have implicated another PCT member, Jean Pierre Thystre-Tchicaya, now also under arrest.

## Hill Samuel Base Rate

With effect from the close of business on 30th July, 1985, Hill Samuel's Base Rate for lending will be decreased from 12% to 11.5% per annum.

DEMAND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS  
Depositors not liable to deduction for basic rate tax  
8% per annum gross.

Depositors liable to deduction for basic rate tax  
5.98% per annum net  
8.54% per annum gross equivalent.

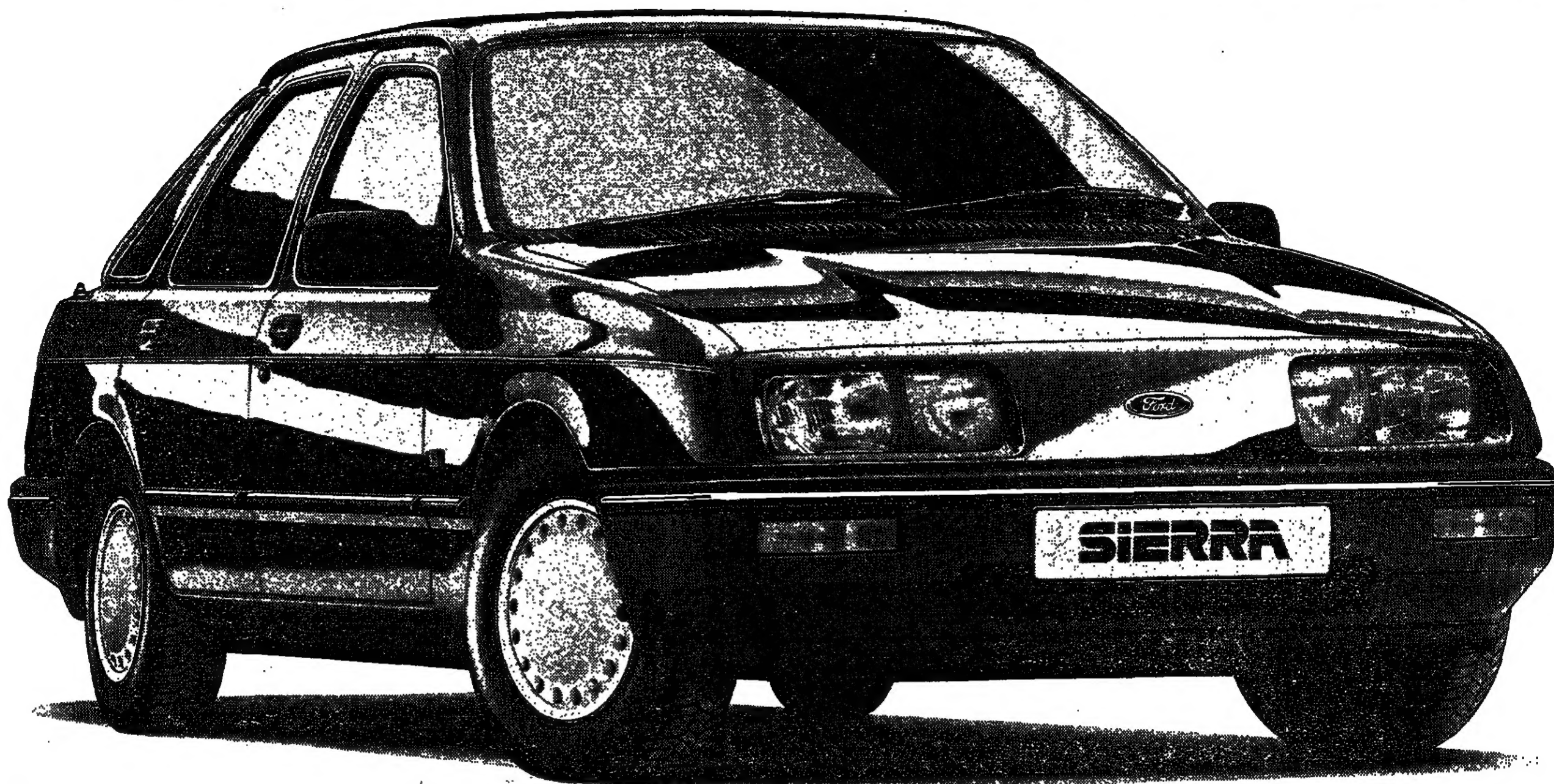
Interest to be paid quarterly and rates are subject to variation.

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100 Wood Street, London EC2P 2AJ  
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When it comes to buying a car everyone has different financial priorities. So, to make it as easy as possible for you to have a Sierra, you can choose between two special finance deals. Here's how they work.

**THE 4.9% FINANCE DEAL.** If you buy a Sierra and it's registered before the end of August, you can take advantage of low cost finance with a 4.9% interest rate and a 3 year repayment period. That means both manageable payments and a low final cost.

You will need to put down a deposit of 20% but this may well come from the sale of your present car.

This offer applies to any Sierra you like – the efficient 1.3 or 1.6, the tax beating 1.8, the sporty fuel injected 2.0iS or even the exhilarating, high performance XR4i. And both saloons and estates are included.

On the other hand you might prefer a different approach.

**THE RED CARPET DEAL.** With this deal you can drive away a brand new Sierra 1.3 Saloon for under £390. That leaves you money to spend on other things. After that, you pay just £129.76 each month (equivalent to £29.95 a week) by direct debit. It couldn't be more simple.

Typical example: Sierra 1.3 Saloon.	4.9% Finance Deal	Red Carpet Deal
Cash Price on the road	£5589.39	£5589.39
Initial Payment	1117.88 (20%)	389.28
Monthly Instalment (commencing 1 month after contract date)	142.47 (36 mths)	129.76 (35 mths)
Weekly Equivalent	32.88	29.95
Plus a Final Instalment (not payable if you return the car)	Nil	1802.18
Total Credit Price	6246.80	6733.06
(Includes Charges of	657.41	1143.67)
<b>APR</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>

Then, after 3 years you have a choice. Either you can keep the car by paying the special Final Instalment (you'll be told how much that is at the outset). Or you can return it – perhaps to pick up your next new car.

The figures quoted here apply to the Sierra 1.3 Saloon. But you can also get Red Carpet Deals on the 1.3L or the 1.6 Saloon and L at extra cost.

Both 4.9% Finance and Red Carpet Deals are available at participating Ford dealers until Aug. 31st. So call in and get the full details soon. You'll get a great car into the bargain. How else could it have sold a million?

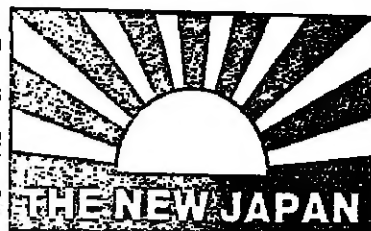
## WE'RE EASY TO DEAL WITH.

The finance offers above are subject to credit approval and apply to Sierra vehicles registered between July 1st and August 31st in England, Scotland and Wales and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements or Red Carpet Plan Hire Purchase Agreements underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and, in the case of Red Carpet Plan, must operate a current bank account from which payments will be made by direct debit. Written credit details may be obtained from any participating Ford dealer or by writing to Ford Motor Credit Company Limited, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Please note: various factory fitted options are available for eligible vehicles at an extra cost. Figures and APR correct at time of going to press.



A country where women with first-class degrees end up making coffee in offices is a long way from female emancipation

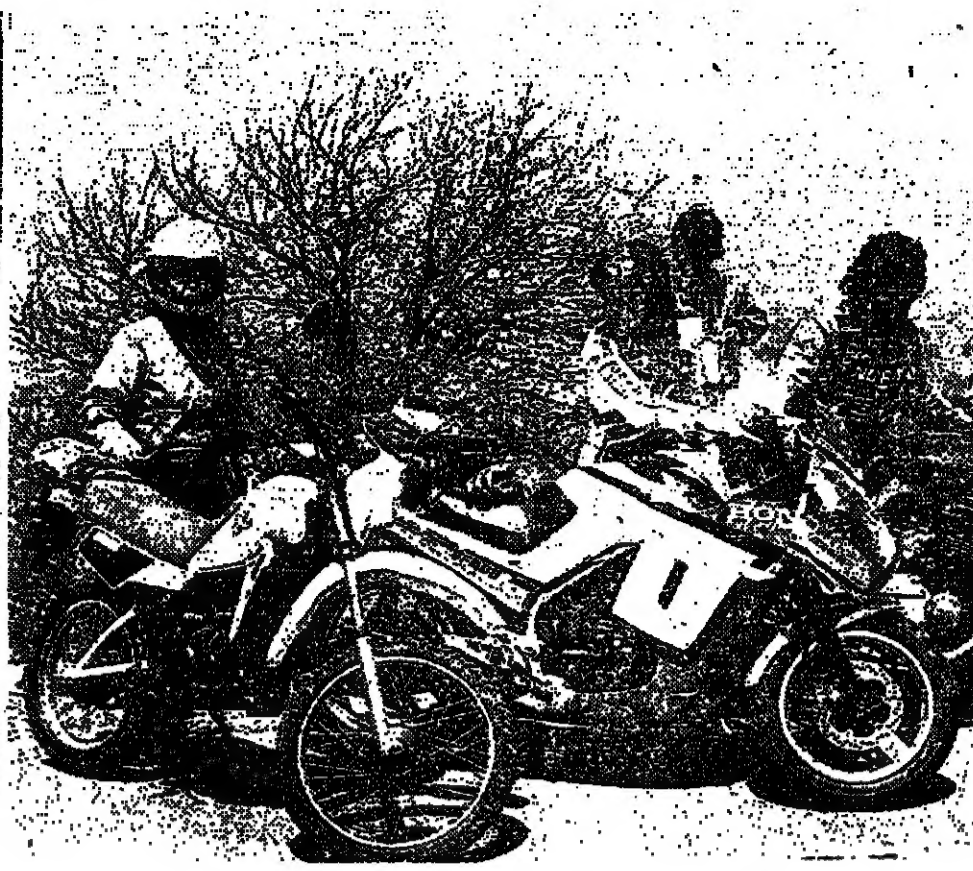
# Slow progress from geisha to graduate



In the second of his three reports on contemporary attitudes, David Watts examines the position of women in Japanese society and finds a few encouraging signs



Japanese women to the fore: the traditional, restricting kimono may be worn for driving practice at the golf club, but not for riding motorbikes



after completing her masters' degree in the United States, and had to get in 15 minutes earlier than the men every morning to clean up the office and make tea. Her salary was the equivalent of less than £1 a day for translation and writing.

"If someone wanted coffee, I had to make it. I became the most responsible person in the office. Gradually they recognized what I was doing and they stopped asking me to make coffee, after two years or so. That's the only way you can overcome something in Japanese society - you can't fight it."

Her assignment as a correspondent in New York in 1980-82 disproved the notion that women

**'Bias against women is written into the language'**

are not suitable for such jobs. "I created a good image. So many women come to the newspaper now and quote my name."

"It was a very difficult decision for me. I had to leave my husband behind in Tokyo for two years, but I was the first in history. I felt like dropping from the top of Mount Fuji, but my husband finally encouraged me to go."

There is a widespread perception that women have unrealized potential but two factors inhibit them. First, a tight economic situation has meant there are fewer jobs for women; second, as young Japanese women become richer they are less willing to fight for a bigger role outside the home.

There is something for which western countries might be grateful. When Japan decides to unleash the full potential of its women its industries will become even more unassailable.

As one American manager of a joint venture puts it: "If I had my way I'd fire my male staff and replace them with the Japanese secretaries."

**TOMORROW**

**Japan's future: can its conformist society change?**

The five worst infirmities that afflict the female are indolence, discontent, slander, jealousy and silliness. Without any doubt these five infirmities are found in seven or eight out of every ten women and it is from these that arises the inferiority of women to men. So wrote a Japanese sage 250 years ago in *Onna Daigaku*, or *Great Learning for Women*.

Despite the end of feudalism and the removal of Japan's heavy-handed military government 40 years ago, the basic concept of the ideal woman remains remarkably similar.

A recent religious tract admonished: "Women should demonstrate their naturally passive proclivities. They should understand and accept their husband's feelings compliantly, without question. They should respect and praise their husbands and obey them selflessly."

Those with western notions of women's roles and aspirations despair at the daily image of Japanese women in the media. Late-night television would have European and American feminists reaching for rifles.

But Japan has its own way of doing things in this as in everything else. Japanese women are not at the barricades, they are at the tennis club, happily demonstrating their freedom from the company mill that their husbands tread daily. Not for them the full-frontal confrontation.

They prefer to nibble away at the edges. But that does not mean that nothing is happening.

The tennis club and the aerobics class have become the symbols of the more independent-minded married women, just as overseas travel on a large scale is the province of the single working girl. Things are changing faster than you might think, considering that the first women went into parliament only in 1946.

Many women would probably prefer to overcome male prerogatives gradually, as the direct legislative approach is not necessarily productive. A new law on equality of the sexes in employment, while urging the most praiseworthy objectives, not only provides no penalties for non-compliance but actually removes some hard-won safeguards for women.

In ancient times, Japan was a matriarchal society and nobles often married to advance themselves by moving into the household of an influential father-in-law. Women were the creators of much early Japanese literature and the world's

first novel, *The Tale of Genji*, was written by a woman.

As Buddhism and Confucianism from China began to dominate, the role of women quickly became subordinate to men. Buddhism taught that women were inherently evil. That bias was written into the language. The Japanese character for a woman shows a dependent figure, the character for a lot of noise depicts three women together. When used as a modifier, the same character means there's mischief afoot. Japanese culture relegates women to a second-class position outside the home. Anyone who aspires to anything else has to show the determination not to be crushed by the fact that even family and friends will classify the career woman a misfit in a society which sets a supreme value on conformity.

But many Japanese women are quite happy with the current state of affairs. They have no desire to emulate their western sisters as accessories at parties or partake of any other aspect of the business world. For some it is a recognition that no Japanese company is going to give them a worthwhile, life-long

career. Others agree with the traditional perception that children and home provide a fulfilment no profession could match.

The government has tried to show a lead and today there is again a woman in the Cabinet as well as numerous women in senior positions in the bureaucracy.

Women run private sector companies. There are woman helicopter pilots, and there is even a house-

husband who has sewn his wife's dresses for the past four years.

Once a woman comes out of university her options are limited, even with a good degree. If she wants financial independence or a career the outlook is even worse.

Most women have to be content with the classic route to marriage via an interlude as an "OL", short for office lady. There she can look forward to a few years of being a *shokuba no hana*, literally "office flower" till her petals begin to wilt or she finds a husband, often from within the company.

Even the marriage age is circumscribed by unwritten, though immutable, conventions that are encapsulated in the Christmas cake syndrome: like a Christmas cake, a girl is marketable for marriage until the 25th - her 25th birthday. Every Boxing Day in Japan hundreds of Christmas cakes are thrown away as unsaleable. The comparison is apt.

The life of an office lady is far from challenging: two women with good degrees at a big Tokyo corporation committed suicide some years back over the menial work they were given.

Some women can break away from the norm. Mrs Mitsuko Shimamura dresses with the flair of a woman whose days are taken up by nothing more pressing than cocktail parties and fashion shows. "You don't have to renounce femininity to succeed", insists Mrs Shimamura, one of Japan's most successful women writers.

"For most women in Japan the most important thing is behave as women are supposed to behave and put yourself in that box. For the average girl that's not so difficult. But that box was too small for me."

By the age of 10 she knew she wasn't going to fit into any box. Her mother had already shown her the way with her medical career.

Today, in her early forties, she is the equivalent of a deputy editor as part of a special writers' group at the *Asahi Shimbun*, one of Japan's largest daily newspapers. But even though she was the country's first woman foreign correspondent and has a string of books to her credit, she still feels she is not taken seriously by some of her male colleagues.

She first worked for a magazine.



## A measure of excellence

Fans at the Mexico City Olympics gasped when Bob Beamon long-jumped 29' 2 1/2" - 8.90 m. - surpassing the existing world record by an incredible 21 inches. Today, 17 years later, that jump remains a measure of excellence in athletics.

Seeking to better Beamon's mark this summer will be history's second longest jumper, Carl Lewis. In fact, many of the world's finest athletes will be vying for records and points in this summer's IAAF Mobil Grand Prix. A season of 16 international meets, the Grand Prix is sponsored by Mobil and organised by the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Forthcoming Grand Prix competitions include the Bislett Games in Oslo on 27 July, the IAC Meeting in London on 2 August, and the Budapest Grand Prix in Budapest on 4 August.

Grand Prix points are awarded to athletes on the basis of their performances and times. World records gain extra points. At the conclusion of the season, Grand Prix awards will be made to the outstanding male and female athletes and to the outstanding performers in each event.

Mobil supports the Grand Prix because it believes in rewarding consistent achievement at the highest levels. After all, it's the truest measure of excellence.



## How Whitehall plays the numbers game

"The average British woman is an awful shape", said the Government's chief statistician cheerfully, reaching for one of his favourite pieces of work. A national survey, of a thoroughness unmatched by any other country, revealed the average height of the British female to be 5ft 3 3/4 ins, while her weight is a substantial 11 stone 11 pounds.

This survey is an example of the diversity of the job of the nation's chief number-cruncher, from which Sir John Boreham retires this week after seven years, to be replaced by Mr Jack Hibbert of the Department of Trade and Industry. Sir John is head of the Central Statistical Office, which produces the volumes of national accounts on which the decisions of economic policy are based. He is responsible for the collation and processing of the vast mass of official statistics collected throughout the web of Whitehall, on everything from what we grow in our greenhouses to the contents of our shopping baskets.

The Government employs 5,717 people in the statistics business, who cost £130 million a year. The biggest bill comes from the Department of Transport, though this will shrink as the men with clip-boards and traffic surveys are automated. This is about to happen at a capital cost of £3 million, saving £700,000 a year: just one example of the savings made possible by technology, which Sir John cites as one of the major achievements of his seven years. Between 1980 and 1983 alone, costs were cut by some 25 per cent.



Sir John Boreham: statistics are pointless unless they have a use to policy-makers

The pedigree of official statistics runs back to the first proper census in 1801, though national accounts and population estimates both have earlier antecedents. But Sir John reckons the 1991 census may well be the last of the line: "Most other countries are coming to rely more on registers for such information."

But in Britain, I argued, we do not have a national register or a system of identity cards. Sir John disagreed. "We do, in fact, but it's all rather ramshackle; we have a variety of registers for different purposes, like national insurance or driving, but the information is never brought together properly."

Between censuses, be they of population, employment or production, we rely on special surveys carried out by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys - using samples of a size that casts opinion pollsters into the shade. The

1981 survey of heights and weights was a one-off investigation: the most established of the continuous regulars is the Family Expenditure Survey, from which such politically sensitive indicators as the Retail Price Index are constructed.

For politicians, there is a constant temptation to manipulate statistics, particularly when they say something unwelcome. But on the whole, Sir John says, the politicians have behaved pretty well during his time as watchdog. "I have only written my letter of resignation once, and it never had to be posted."

An obvious temptation is for governments to hold on to awkward information until, say, a tricky by-election is over. For the regular mass of monthly statistics churned out by the government machine, this danger is avoided by publishing release dates well in advance, a practice introduced by Sir John's predecessor and doggedly adhered to.

The Germans have to pass a law every time they request information from their citizens; Sir John has simply to justify the cost. He feels the Government's statisticians have become more conscious of this during his time. Surveys are pricey - the General Household Survey, which supplies us with much information about family behaviour, now costs £1,250,000 a year.

Such surveys can be an expensive flop if the public refuses to co-operate. The British are famously reluctant to disclose information about their incomes, about which the Americans, for example, are quite ready to fill in forms.

Sir John singled out the National Crime Survey as a more recent statistical product of lasting influence. "This really altered the way ordinary people think about the crime problem, by revealing the amount that went unrecorded, and the extent to which official police figures vary". What about that other underground area of unrecorded activity, the "black" economy of payments that

evade the taxman? Here Sir John sounded a note of caution: his national accounts provide some clues to the scale of the black economy, by revealing the difference between our total declared income and the rather larger total of our spending.

Sir John professed himself "worried" about our figures on the state of the labour market.

but expresses some sympathy with the view of ethnic minorities that they are prepared to co-operate in the collection of figures provided they are given some idea of their purpose.

This chimes with Sir John's view, suitably in line with the attitudes of the present Government, that the customer is king: collecting statistics is pointless unless they have a use to policy-makers that justifies their cost.

Sir John's claims to have impressed upon his staff that their end product is not a row of figures but a sentence. "Statisticians find it awkward - even painful - to use words; but it is words that make statistics comprehensible to ordinary people." Words can be painful to the reader, too. Translate Sir John's statistics for the average British woman into words, and only two are possible: short and fat. The figures in the survey show an average man of 5ft 8 1/2 in and 11 stone 8 pounds. Now put that into words.

Sarah Hogg

## The 1991 census may well be the last

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## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 709)

ACROSS

- 1 Clans (6)
- 5 Rub lightly (4)
- 8 ESP board (5)
- 9 Rugby throw-in (4,3)
- 11 Whitehall monument (8)
- 13 Greek cheese (4)
- 15 USA trilogy author (4,3,6)
- 17 Inisipid person (4)
- 18 Fete (6)
- 21 Fast train (7)
- 22 Poison (5)
- 23 Feel certain (4)
- 24 Masquerade cloak (6)

DOWN

- 2 Rule (5)
- 3 Brassiere (3)
- 4 Having aplomb (4,9)
- 5 Eye blink (4)
- 6 Handle (7)
- 7 Rugby linesman (5,5)
- 10 Organ transfer (10)
- 12 Neat (4)
- 14 Rodgers' collaborator (4)
- 16 Coiffure fastener (7)
- 19 Female fox (5)
- 20 Cat cry (4)
- 22 Male cat (3)

SOLUTION TO No 708

ACROSS: 1 Bumps 4 Parosel 8 Twice 9 Invoice 10 Hairloom 11 Wise 13 Proceedings 17 Mosh 18 Moccasin 21 Sparrow 22 Ulcer 23 Sulphur 24 Trove

DOWN: 1 Bitchy 2 Meiji 3 Sherlock 4 Prisoner of war 5 Rave 6 Sailing 7 Lieder 12 Viscount 14 Rattail 15 Amuses 16 Untrue 19 Secco 20 Arch



## FASHION by Suzy Menkes

## Embroidering a tale

Last Tuesday at 7pm, I watched 1,800 rose-pink paillettes and jet-black beads laid out on a bed of pure silk chiffon. The following day at 12 noon precisely, a slim sheath, shimmering with the paillettes was walking down the catwalk at Yves Saint Laurent's collection.

It was all in a night's work for the 40 embroiderers who had spent the last month and a total of 40,000 hours on the Paris couture collections.

Baroque beaded embroidery, recalling the lavish costumes of the Italian Renaissance, stunned onlookers at the Paris shows. Waves of applause greeted Jean-Louis Scherrer's Mary Stuart velvets coruscated with jewels, Yves Saint Laurent showed black Chantilly lace, over rose-pink satin, with motifs of *belle époque* ribbons and bows re-embroidered in beads. Jean Patou's wild young designer Christian Lacroix made the ultimate rich hippie's caftan decorated with rivelets of sequins. And Karl Lagerfeld at Chanel wove a kelim rug pattern into a coat that used

190,000 paillettes, each and every one stitched on by hand. These extraordinary embroideries, works of art that are reviving an ancient couture craft, are not sewn in India as the audience expects. I traced the beads that decorate the most expensive coat in the world to the bottom of a Nescafé jar in Montmartre, where they were being bathed in dye in France's famous embroidery house: Lesage.

I asked the chief designer at Lesage if the couturiers' demands were sometimes just too difficult to be traced and stitched in beads. "Impossible", he replied, "is not a word we understand".

Round the walls in this rambling empire of embroideries are pictures of some of Lesage's most impressive work: the Ming blue and white "Chinese porcelain" embroideries for Chanel and the three-dimensional Rococo ornolu that Karl Lagerfeld demanded for his dresses.

In the storeroom is a treasure-house of history, where a poison-green chiffon dress by Madame Vionnet, encrusted

with gold embroidery, lies side by side with a Balmain creation from the 1950s that turned lampshade fringing into a beaded skirt. The precious Czechoslovakian bugle beads counted out in numbers and the paillettes poured out in grammes are noted on reference cards under each designer's name.

François Lesage, who can just remember queuing up with his father like a tradesman at the back door of Balenciaga and Schiaparelli, is now a revered design partner in haute couture. He works in the utmost secrecy on his own collections of embroideries, taking as his theme ancient tapestries or porcelain, nature's flowers and city graffiti. Only Karl Lagerfeld, he says, and occasionally Yves Saint Laurent, ever come to him with their own inspiration for embroideries. He recalls the shower of sequins, made into the shape of a bathroom shower, that poured down the back of a Chloé dress and shows me the clippings from magazines that Lagerfeld sent him

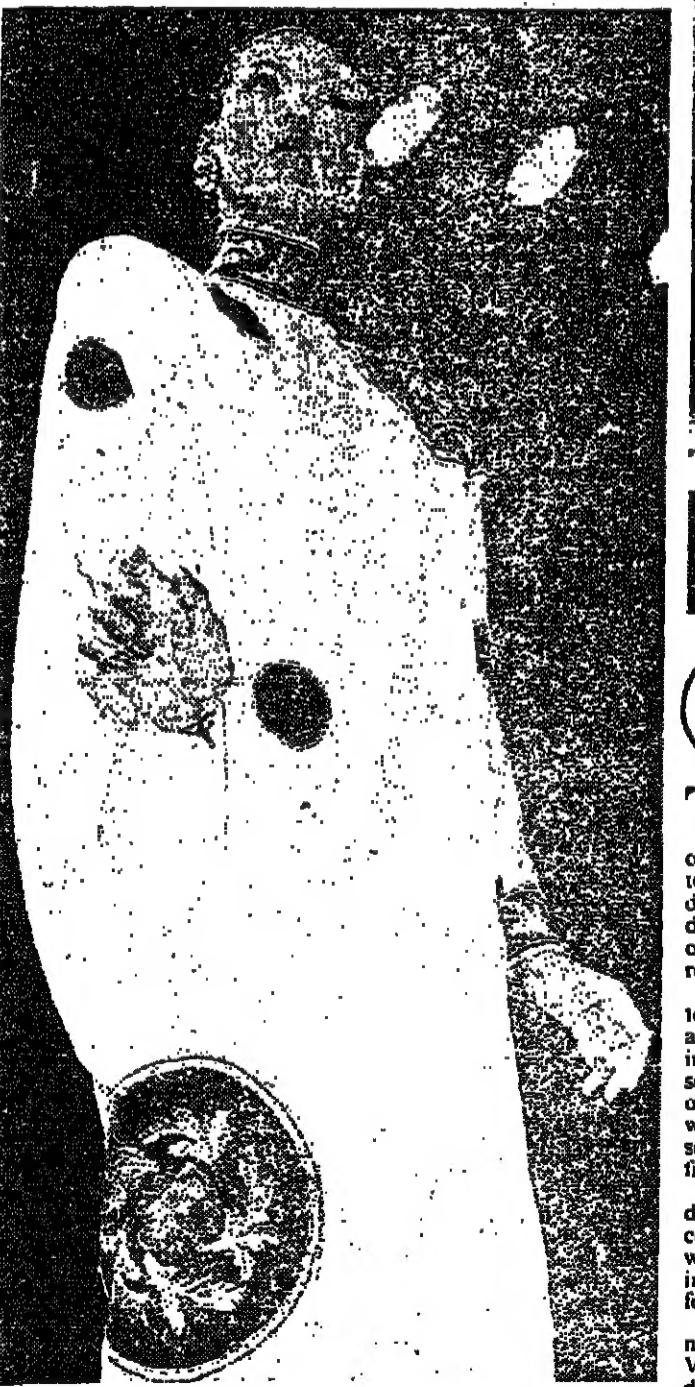
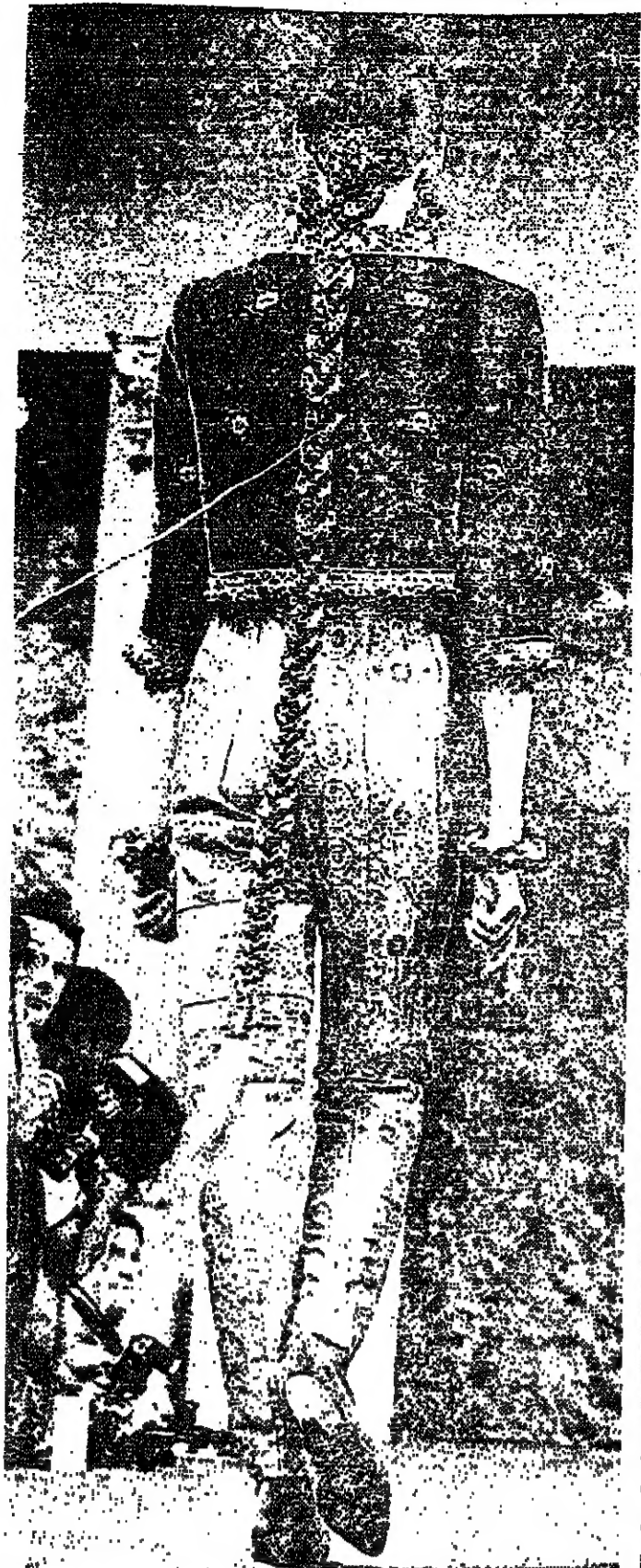
when he wanted the effect of gilded boules furniture.

Private commissions come from Arab princesses, who demand absolute originality, and often order three wedding gowns at a time for days of celebrations. There is no such thing as a new design in embroidery, claims Lesage, only different ways to interpret it for today's clothes and especially different combinations of colours. He lets steel-grey pearls and turquoise beads run like sand through his fingers.

"We are like artists who need their brushes and paint", he explains. "We are obliged to play with the materials."

The 40 embroiderers, all women ("this is not a man's profession") and almost all young, are graduates of the Paris embroidery school. Lesage trains them for three or four years before they can be let loose on a couture gown where one false snip would be a costly error.

I worked out the cost of a hand-beaded gown at about 10p per tiny, glittering jewel. Chanel's shimmering evening T-shirt has 100,000 beads.



The exotic Paris embroideries.

Top left: Patou's rich hippie embroidered bolero and brocade trousers by Christian Lacroix.

Top right: Yves Saint Laurent's black Chantilly lace sheath over rose-pink satin with jet embroidered bows.

Left: Chanel's waisted cardigan jacket, beads worked to the pattern of a kelim. By designer Karl Lagerfeld.

Above: Jean-Louis Scherrer's Mary Stuart jewel-encrusted dresses in velvet worn with Renaissance jewelled caps.

Far left: Balmain's circles of tapestry embroidery worked in beads on a simple white crêpe high-necked dress. Designer Erik Mortensen.

All the embroideries from the Paris house of Lesage.

Photographs by HARRY KERR



François Lesage and Vionnet sample

## FASHION EDITOR'S COMMENT

Ten years ago, haute couture was pronounced dead by a respected body of fashion opinion. There was nothing left to do but give the old girl a decent burial under a mound of designer perfumes and accessories that seemed the last remains of a noble tradition.

Now, while the Paris ready-to-wear shows often look empty and overblown, couture is back in fine form, attracting this season its largest-ever audience of press and even store buyers, who say fashion is now being set from the top, rather than from the street.

Last week I wrote about developments in England which could revive British couture, which is already attracting increasing numbers of clients for made-to-order clothes.

At the same moment, came news from Italy that Armani, Versace, Krizia and Fendi are discussing moving into Alta Moda. If Italy's leading ready-to-wear designers move into couture, it would be a blow below the nappa leather belt for Paris fashion, which is just regaining its dominance over the upstart Italians. It would also suggest an end to the fashion reign of luxury sportswear and emphasize a new belief in an old art.

"Couture" a much misused word in the fashion business - has a distinct meaning. It is nothing to do with making "up-market" or expensive ranges, which is how it is used to describe designer label clothes in the United States. Nor is it a generic term for a certain image of sophistication, which is how we tend to use it in Britain.

"Haute couture" clothes are cut and draped on the body, ready-to-wear clothes are cut from a flat pattern. That is the difference, and it is absolute when it comes to the fit and the movement of the clothes produced.

Fifty years ago, any woman with the money had her clothes made and tailored for her. The mass manufacturing industry

was seen as a boon for the ordinary woman and nothing to do with elegance and chic.

The new generation that is turning to couture has never before had a dress made to fit. They are the rich who have been buying luxury labels off the peg at prices that seem to rise with the yeast of designer publicity. This infinitesimal fraction of the world's women who are in the market for designer evening dresses at £2,500 are potential customers for couture, where they can get a personalized service for their money. The Arab customers realized this five years ago and it is their patronage of haute couture which has given the Paris collections the money and confidence to rise from the dead. Rich American and European women are discreetly following the trend.

What have the couture houses, catering to the foibles of the rich in £5,000 frocks, to do with the rest of us?

In an industry where success is usually measured in hyped-up hurrahs at the end of mediocre fashion shows, "excellence" is not a word to be used lightly. The couture collections are no exception. Elaborate, over-worked clothes are often greeted with house applause and launched on an embarrassingly opulent banquet of canapés and champagne.

So it came as a refreshing shock last week when Yves Saint Laurent's models walked out to no music and no clapping from the back, showing clothes without fur trims, without swags of velvet, 75 per cent of them black. One dress, in the plainest crêpe, apparently cut seamlessly at the back, draped at the front and following the shape of the body like a shadow, was the summit of couture perfection. The bravos from the hardened fashion professionals in the front row were spontaneous. And this fashion editor had palms that ached from clapping and a stinging at the back of the eyes.

## Ready answers for relative strangers

## FIRST PERSON

Denis Herbstein

Any morning now the phone will ring like a parade ground reveille, disturbing dreams and the hopes of a few hours more sleep. You stagger downstairs, lift the receiver, hear the pips... still time to put it down... too late. A cheerful, breakfasted voice enquires: "Is that Denis Herbstein?"

"Yah."

The summer invasion of Britain by South African tourists - my relatives, friends and olden days enemies among them - has begun.

I say: "It's seven o'clock in the morning."

"Denis, man, don't you recognize your old Auntie Millie?"

Auntie Millie (fourth cousin, several times removed) and Uncle Sonny are at Heathrow Airport, just in from Johannesburg en route to New York to see son Ivan, the "successful gynaecologist" and deciding to stay in London for a few days at the Regent's Palace, take in *Starlight Express* and *Madame Butterfly*, sup at Bloom's and "have a good look at all the troubles you got over here".

I am top of the list of the not-forgotten ones (*los inolvidados*) to be contacted. There must be 100,000 of us living in Britain, and no matter that we have been lost for decades, changed our accent and nationality, we remain ever open to inspection. They want to see how Denis is managing, actually cooking a meal and washing up, anxious to know whether any blacks or hippies live in our street. Word will be passed on back home.

We nibble the placatory offering of *Biltong* (dried meat smuggled past the British customs in one of Auntie Millie's toilet bags) and soon enough the talk moves edgily to South Africa itself and they have their answers ready. "... Yes, but what about Ethiopia, Libya, Nicaragua, Afghanistan, Northern Ireland, Arthur Scargill, Brixton, eh?"

We shake hands and, waiting for the mini-cab to restore them

to the hotel, Uncle Sonny takes me aside with an earnest whisper: "Seriously, Denis, how long do you give us?"

They will enquire (in predictable order, depending on age, sex and inhibition) as to the availability of girls, tickets for the men's final at Wimbledon, how to get a work permit, are the streets of London safe at night, is there a tube to Brighton, and is *Last Tango in Paris* still showing.

Not every caller wants to be invited round. Some simply ring to say a metallic hello, then disappear for another 10 years. Others feel left out if they have no one to phone when they come to England, for to know someone here is as important as the visit to the Changing of the Guard or Petticoat Lane.

But if they sound as though only a dinner invitation will do, and cannot be matched for skin thickness, there are certain well-established rules for the host. Give the impression that you live far out of London, preferably close to Birmingham. Alternatively say: "Sure thing, come round, we live in Brixton, so come by taxi." (South Africans are extremely wary of taxis). As a last resort, tell them a member of the executive of the African National Congress is staying for a few days and he'd love to talk about the old country.

In truth, however, there is no perfect antidote to a determined visitor. All you are left with is revenge.

Some years ago, therefore, I flew into Johannesburg very early one morning and with a gleam in my eye made for the nearest phone box. "Guess who?" I said, with a very British accent. "Sorry," said the voice, "madame is still asleep and cannot be disturbed. Will you telephone later?" I never did.

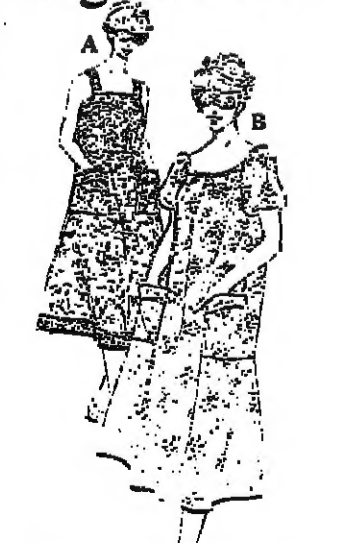
## TOMORROW

## Fighting diabetes: one woman's battle against 'the beast'



Teresa McLean, diabetic diabetic

## Angela Gore



## Two Sundresses

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# THE TIMES DIARY

## In at the deep end

They were a trifle hot and bothered at our embassy in Addis Ababa yesterday. Rumours that while millions starved in drought-stricken Ethiopia, the embassy had asked Whitehall to build a swimming pool in its extensive grounds were somewhat inaccurate, a spokesman told me. Yes, an FO "visitor" had recently inspected the embassy and yes, the idea of a pool had been discussed, but plans were no further advanced than that. It could be fed by natural springs and would serve not just the dozen diplomats but the entire British community. "I don't see that possible amenities for a hard-working staff have anything to do with the amount of money we are providing for starving Ethiopians," I was told somewhat drily.

## Book bind

I hate to think of all those precious manuscripts going up in flames, but the offices of the publishing company Weidenfeld seem somewhat vulnerable. They occupy the top two floors of an eight-floor block in Clapham High Street, the other six of which house Lambeth Council's social services department. The department's 400 social workers are all out on strike, and the building is being picked over by Lambeth councillors over murdered baby Tyra Henry. On Friday the building had to be evacuated after attempted arson on the third floor, and yesterday had to be evacuated not once, but twice, following bomb threats.

## Shirley the chic

I shall never call Shirley Williams a rag-bag again. In a recorded interview to be broadcast this afternoon on Granada TV, she makes some truly tear-jerking confessions. "I did for a long time have a reputation for looking fairly untidy and drab. I don't think it's important but I don't think it matters in public life. What I've learned is that what I'm doing will actually be hindered if I don't look reasonably tidy and smart. I've probably damaged what I'm doing by not looking like that." She recovers to have a snipe at Mrs T - "She has become estranged from the lives of most women"; and of the House of Commons (of which Shirley is equally estranged) - "it's not so much a gentleman's club as a boys' boarding club."

BARRY FANTONI



## Unrigorous

Blamed these days for just about everything else, the police are now taking the rap for wearing out the shroud at Hull mortuary. The local police superintendent has instructed his men: "The present shroud has been left in a crumpled and dirty condition on the floor and due to its misuse has deteriorated. All officers will treat the local authority facilities with greater consideration." Disgruntled coppers reasonably point out that it is not every corpse that arrives in pristine condition.

Expecting a sedate Jewish function, the authorities at Leeds University readily booked their ornate Great Hall to an organization called the Tribes of Israel last week. They were somewhat surprised when the "tribes" arrived - a thousand Rastafarians celebrating Haile Selassie's birthday.

## Unrepentant

Remember Barry Aylisse? He was the fellow almost expelled from the Monday Club earlier this year after he told the Cambridge Union that he found blacks "aesthetically obnoxious". Perhaps this time he will not be so lucky. His manifesto for the Monday Club's forthcoming student group elections advocates "the causes of patriotism and nationalism" because the Monday Club "receives much of its popular support from its... opposition to the cultural pollution of British life by alien peoples."

## Inside track

Unless Labour's unofficial bookie, Ian Mikardo, has totally misjudged his colleagues' mood, Norman Hogg has sown up the battle to succeed Michael Cocks as party chief whip. Mikardo makes Hogg's currently deputy chief whip, 15-3 favourite with Derek Foster, Kinnock's parliamentary private secretary, as runner-up. He offers 11-4 on Hogg winning with either of the other candidates, transport spokesman Peter Snape or employment spokesman John Evans, in second place, and 8-1 against Foster beating Hogg into second place. The chances of rank outsiders Snape and Evans taking first two places he rates 100-1 against.

PHS

Bailey Morris on why Reagan must come off the fence

# Budget that will not budge

Washington  
Despite five months of the most intensive political negotiations by the Reagan administration, the US federal budget remains immovable, with spending locked in at levels which guarantee unprecedented fiscal deficits - and probably trade deficits too - for the next four years.

These are the cancers which are eating away at the US economy, forcing the government to borrow enormous sums from abroad to pay its debts. At the same time its manufacturing sector staggers under the weight of the still-high dollar. The \$200 billion budget deficit and the \$150 billion trade deficit are clear and present threats and yet despite rising public concern, mirrored in recent opinion polls, nothing substantive is being done. The US Senate last week made a bold, sensible, proposal to break the impasse. But unless Reagan changes his views drastically, agreeing to tax increases, this too appears doomed.

The deteriorating situation led Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve Board, to exclaim in recent testimony before Congress: "There has to be a way out of the impasse." But he had nothing new to pull out of the hat. Indeed, he was forced to admit that the country's central bank found itself increasingly hemmed in. The monetary tools which have worked in the past will not be sufficient under present circumstances. "Either we have to increase our savings or reduce our deficits. We cannot increase savings, so we have to reduce the deficit. The way cannot be found by US monetary policy alone," said Volcker.

But the negotiations, begun early this year, to reduce the federal deficit appear to have gone up in smoke. It took only one abortive White House meeting to destroy six months work. Now Senate Republicans are warring against the White House and House Democrats are haunted by the ghost of Walter Mondale's defeated race for the presidency. The politics of the deficit once again dominates everything.

The renewed effort to restart talks recently appears to be a battle already lost. Although it is possible that an agreement will be reached, to save face for all concerned, the sums involved are likely to be small. The savings produced will fall far short of the original goal, resulting in a continuing large deficit likely to dominate the 1986 mid-term congressional elections and the policy decisions of the Federal Reserve Board. Wall Street expects the process to yield real cuts of between only \$15 billion and \$20 billion, said Alan Greenspan, an economist mentioned as a candidate for one of two impending vacancies on the board. There is still hope that Reagan will agree to higher taxes and put pressure on House Democrats to cut social security, but this is a long shot. It is equally possible that for the first time in memory there will be no budget at all.

How did such a promising start end in acrimony and mistrust? The

The remarkable number of black South Africans who have entered police stations in robust good health, only to experience a sharp attack of death before emerging, reminds me yet again of the comforting truth (the reminder will not be of much comfort to the dead Africans or their families, of course) that an astonishing high proportion of wicked men are also stupid.

You would have thought that after the murder of Steve Biko, which did South Africa almost immeasurable damage (though again, not as much damage as the two policemen did Biko), somebody would have passed down the word that since South Africa has enough laws, and enough reliable judges and magistrates, to convict any African of anything at all and put him away in silence for as long as might be desired, it is quite unnecessary, and even counter-productive, for the police to beat their prisoners' brains out with such depressing frequency.

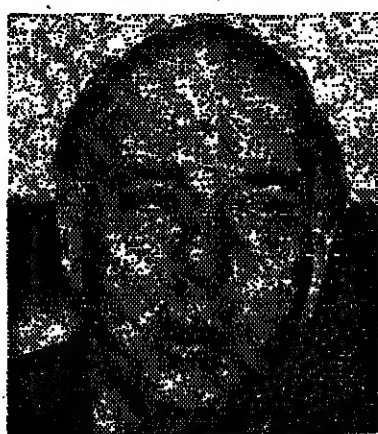
From the murdered imam in 1969, from the murdered Biko in 1977, from the murders by police continuing to the present day, South Africa garners nothing but harm; would it not serve her interests better for her leaders to take action sufficiently ruthless - say, hanging a couple of policemen with blood on their hands, *pour encourager les autres* - to stop it?

To the solution of this mystery there may be a clue in a recent South African court case. It concerned a group of five white youths, all aged 15 or 16, who kicked and beat to death two black men, one of whom was 68 years old; there appeared to be no motive for the killing other than the enjoyment of it.

The boys were arrested and charged with murder; they pleaded not guilty, though they later changed their plea, presumably on legal advice, to one of guilty of culpable homicide, which plea was accepted.

A clinical psychologist, a Dr Carmie, gave evidence for the defence. He claimed that tests proved that the boys "were not violence oriented"; well, that's good to know, because if they had been violence oriented they might have really done somebody some harm. Dr Carmie also said that the killings (which he called "the nasty incident"), presumably to make sure that nobody would leave the courtroom under the impression that they constituted a *nice* incident) might never have happened if the boys had not been in a group.

I can understand that, of course. Although one of the men they killed was 68, the other was only 36, and the individual members of the killer gang might well have hesitated to take on both men without the safety of numbers. At the end of the case, there was the regulation weeping mother, who said "All his life my 15-year-old son has been soft and I don't know what got into him." (Neither do I, though I know what got into Mr William Nkosi and Mr



Volcker: increasingly hemmed in



Dole: fears the economy is being destroyed



Reagan: 'deficits do not matter'



Stockman: a warning of higher taxes

prevailing view at the White House, often articulated by chief of staff Donald Regan, in his former role as treasury secretary, is that "deficits do not matter". This is what the president wanted to hear when the economy was roaring ahead under the stimulus of deficit-driven growth. It is also what main-street America wanted to hear.

Walter Mondale learned this lesson painfully during the presidential election because of his message of deficit doom and the need for tax increases.

But the Republican Senator Robert Dole, shortly after his election as Senate majority leader, pushed the deficit to the front burner, promising to cut it in half by 1988 to \$100 billion. It was a bold political act, described as the opening gambit in his drive for the Republican presidential nomination.

Dole said the Senate could do better than the budget Reagan sent to Congress, which would have resulted in a \$144 billion deficit by 1988. It would be a tough promise to keep but Dole made it, not only to demonstrate his leadership capabilities but also to illustrate his firm belief that the deficit was destroying the US economy. He warned repeatedly that the US had become a debtor nation for the first time in 70 years, and would soon lose control of its economic destiny.

Eventually, after bitter debate and much political arm twisting, his message was heard. Dole delivered a budget with the promised deficit reduction but only after a dramatic session in which a senator was

rushed from hospital to vote and Vice-President George Bush used his casting vote to pass it. The seventh version moderated the Reagan defence build-up, eliminated a popular cost-of-living increase for pensioners on social security and did not raise taxes.

Soon the Democratic-controlled House followed suit, passing a budget with nearly equal reductions in the deficit but opposite spending priorities, paying for social security and other popular social programmes with sharp cuts in defence spending.

Leaders of the two Houses of Congress sat down to negotiate but no compromise has been in sight. Meanwhile the US economy took a sharp nose dive, growing in the first half of the year at an annual rate of only one per cent. There were dire warnings of recession. Influential Republican officials such as David Stockman, outgoing director of the Office of Management and Budget, said that if the stalemate persisted, higher taxes would have to be considered as the only way out. This was too much for Ronald Reagan.

Repeating his campaign motto "Taxes over my dead body", the president stepped into the fray, launching a deficit reduction drive that began with a tough radio address and ended with a dramatic meeting at the White House less than two weeks ago. Inexplicably, and without consulting Republican leaders, the president sided with Speaker Tip O'Neill and his House Democrats, agreeing to allow the social security increases to go through. This meant that the main

ingredients of deficit reduction - spending cuts in defence and social security and tax increases - were all off limits. Savings would have to be found in the remaining one-third of the budget covering domestic programmes, which had already been cut sharply and which the president himself had been unable to reduce further after a line-by-line search with Stockman.

Republicans were stung. They claimed they had been betrayed by the president and could no longer trust the White House leadership of Donald Regan. In 1986, it would be the 22 Republican Senators up for re-election who would be branded as traitors to social security.

The recent renewal of acrimonious talks has done little to dispel the impression of White House mismanagement and congressional paralysis. The failure to achieve meaningful deficit reductions has meanwhile placed the Federal Reserve Board in a difficult position, as the new monetary policy announced by Paul Volcker shows.

Volcker started Congress by announcing substantial increases in the central bank's monetary targets in response to the flagging economy, which he feared would plunge into recession if the old targets were enforced. At the same time, he said the central bank would not lose sight of its anti-inflation goal.

Volcker was attempting to have his cake and eat it and avoid quickening the dollar's already fast slide. He appeared to succeed - by bolstering an unexpected decision with the full weight of his personal rhetoric. He insisted that the US economic slow-down was going to turn around and that the central bank had no intention of lowering interest rates further with a cut in the discount rate.

The strategy worked. The dollar firmed as markets pondered the central bank's next likely step. But Volcker also warned that the steps now open to the central bank are limited. Indeed, the Federal Reserve Board is walking through a minefield. Unless action is taken on the budget deficit, it cannot take steps to bring down the dollar further and thus moderate the booming trade deficit without triggering inflation.

A great deal now depends on foreign perception of the health of the US economy. The possibility could change adversely and abruptly, resulting in its crash landing, is the greatest threat now facing the US economy, said Volcker. Added to inflationary fears is the fear that the economy could slip easily into another recession, thus compounding the long-running deficit problem.

This is why, in the words of Senator Dole, Ronald Reagan remains the last best hope. Should the president decide to use his considerable popularity and skills as a communicator to address the problem as a national crisis requiring drastic measures and strong public support, Dole and other political figures believe that some thing meaningful could be accomplished.

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

# Amid the colour blindness, a vision of hope



Solomon Kuna - five pairs of boots and a number of blunt instruments.)

So far we have dealt with the "culpable homicide" ("Oh why," sang Benjamin, "do people waste their breath, devising dainty names for death?"); it now behoves us to consider the sentence. Mr Justice Curlewis, in passing it, saw the crucial point immediately. "These are not the type of people that can be sent to a reformatory or to jail," he said. I should think not; they might dislike it for instance, or meet a socially inferior class of people inside, and after all, they had done

nothing but bash the life out of two human beings. Mr Justice Curlewis also ruled out caning as a penalty; he did not, he said, think that would be "suitable punishment" for the five culpably homicidal youths. Again, that seems to me reasonable; they might not have enjoyed the experience at all.

What, then, did he in the end decide was "suitable" punishment for this "type of people"? He sentenced them, the naughty old Judge Jeffries, to spend their weekends for a whole year working in a hospital. The hideous cruelty of this sentence became apparent in his very next words, which must have caused gasps of horror in the court: "the scholars, I understand, are all keen sportsmen. For a year they can forget about any weekend activity."

If we conclude that this is a case

of an unscrupulous white judge letting off white youths in circumstances in which black men would have been hanged, we have missed the point. There is no reason at all to believe that Mr Justice Curlewis is anything but a fair and honest justicer, and that he believed every word he said. What is wrong with the judge is not that he is a wicked man, it is that he lacks the ability to see the facts of the case, the nature of the killers and the fate of their victims, in the way that would be natural to anyone who has lived his life outside South Africa.

When, after the Spanish conquest of Peru under Pizarro, the first reinforcements and supplies from home arrived by sea, the ships hove to just off shore. The Indians literally could not see the vessels, for their inability to comprehend sights so extravagantly unlike anything they had ever seen before led not to ordinary bewilderment but to hysterical blindness: a communication between eye and brain was temporarily severed, and where the Spaniards saw a flotilla, the Indians saw nothing but an empty ocean.

So it is, I am sure, with Mr Justice Curlewis. A lifetime of accepting South African values, a lifetime of living within a set of unchanging assumptions, a lifetime of regarding black and white as two wholly different and eternally separate species, a lifetime of feeling part of a protective *lagar*, one weathers or gap in which may destroy everyone - all this means that the enormity of the judge's behaviour was not the deed of a wrongdoer but the result of a withered imagination, made sterile by the South African osmosis.

That should not be surprising; what should be surprising is the number of South Africans who, though they breathe the same air as Mr Justice Curlewis, have managed to break free of the effect of it. I say that that should be surprising, but I must add that to me it is not. The same phenomenon, in a much more striking form, can be observed in the Soviet Union; men and women brought up amid lies have found the truth inside themselves, and lived by it, in yet another approach both to the Manichee and to the fools who claim that environment is all. In every generation, in every unfree land, there are those who can see and understand the evil by which they are surrounded, and reject it.

Mr Justice Curlewis is not part of that evil; he is only unable to grasp it, and in that he is kin to most white South Africans (for the number who knowingly do evil cannot be much larger than those who see and defy it). One day, in South Africa, everyone will be able to see that for five young degenerates in search of an evening's amusement to kick to death two human beings is about as abominable a crime as it is possible to commit. I do not know when that day will dawn; but I am certain that it will.

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Digby Anderson

# Life and death: an inescapable choice

According to the current edition of *The Lancet*, more than 850 kidney patients will die if more resources are not diverted towards them. The new *NHS Economic Review* finds that additional resources are "essential" and warns of variations in spending across the country.

Now a word in the ears of Mr Meacher, Mr Fowler and all in government or opposition who brag about how much taxpayers' money they have spent or intend to spend on nationalized health care. The word is not about the total level of spending but how spending on particular services is justified.

When Meacher proposes spending more on the northern NHS or Fowler denies he is morally responsible for the deaths of patients whose treatments have been inadequately funded, a debate follows about "the allocation of resources" and "the establishment of priorities". That's evasive, rationalist hot air. What the politicians are up to, the word they are looking for - or rather doing everything possible to avoid - is rationing, and the moral responsibility that goes with it.

Rationing describes well the process by which politicians sanction treatment of this patient and not that. It conjures up blanket decisions, politically instigated, indiscriminating judgements administered by bureaucrats unable to respond to the varying wishes and needs of individual patients. It has a negative connotation, *refusing* certain patients the care they need to avoid suffering and death.

The language the politicians like - priorities, assessment, allocation - presents their system as rational. With enough facts, figures, resources and bright schemes from social scientists, a thoroughly adequate health service will be provided ("adequate" is usually undefined), a standard, reliable service ensured, needs identified and met according to severity (also undefined). This optimistic bureaucratic rhetoric stresses the patients' helplessness. Yes they still actually say no one will be denied necessary treatment. In contrast to this imaginary paradise, the private health market is denounced as chaotic and cruel.

The contrast does not stand scrutiny for the politicians and health bureaucrats do make decisions about who shall live and die. I repeat: patients do die because of decisions made by Fowler and other politicians. What is more, those decisions are not the inevitable result of some sublime rational process; they are moral and the process haphazard and murky.

Meacher is right to complain about inequalities in treatment between North and South. Inequalities between hospital success rates (however measured) are also well-known and the *Black Report* has documented the disproportionate health needs of lower social classes and the lack of response to them. Thus not only is there rationing in that politicians and state officials deny some patients beds and treatment, but the denials are also inequitable. How long the patient must queue, what branches of medicine, what treatments for what illnesses developed are matters beyond his say, matters informed by chance, social class, geography,

hospital organization and the lobby-placating manoeuvres of the ultimate political masters. It is political rationing.

It will get worse. Medical knowledge will increasingly provide and patients want more than government, even a Meacher government, can buy for them or more than they can buy for themselves. They and the government must decide what they buy and, more important, what they don't. And here is the distinction: the decision not to buy a treatment for oneself is *morally* comparatively simple. For the politician to decide for others who shall be denied treatment is a moral nightmare.

It cannot be rationalized away by "resource allocation" rhetoric. The Office of Health Economics, in *Measurement of health*, has recently promoted a scheme to produce "sophisticated measurements" of health spending. By observing and talking to patients suffering different illnesses, the report claims, one can establish how much distress and disability would be reduced by treating each illness and class patients as more or less worth spending money on according to their condition. For example, patients needing renal dialysis are, apparently a worse buy than those needing cardiac surgery.

These "sophisticated measurements" do not, however, solve the moral problem. At the end of the day the politicians and functionaries still have to make the decision. Instead the scheme may add to the politicians' problems for its logic, when applied to a nationalized health system, does not stop at assessing varying benefits to patients.

One argument for nationalizing health care is that its benefits go beyond the individual to society at large; for example in a healthy workforce. The scheme's logic therefore suggests that treatment be given or withheld not only on the basis of the individual's distress, but, of contributions he might or might not make to society subsequent to recovery. No doubt the extent of such contributions could also be assessed by "sophisticated measurements". Is it a good buy to spend scarce public money on the treatment of geriatric illnesses?

This is a far-fetched example and certainly one the scheme's author would not support - the extension of his logic to a nationalized system is, in my view, to do it to show how rational measures fail to reduce this particular moral problem - if anything, the reverse - and give politicians an apparently rational smokescreen behind which to hide moral decisions.

There are problems in the private health care market. But we are only beginning to see that rationing by politicians has its own, perhaps more sinister, problems, problems which grow with advances in medical technology and costs.

"Rationing" sums up those problems well. It is a word that should be in the forefront of the forthcoming debate. Health politicians should be endlessly confronted with it and not permitted to boast their way out of their self-imposed moral nightmare.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kingston

# Blighs and gulls

The idea of turning *Mutiny on the Bounty* into a musical has been greeted in some quarters as if it was somehow meddling with a sacred text, but good heavens, even real sacred texts are turned into musicals. The Bible itself has been made into musicals by people like George Frederic Handel, Johann Sebastian Bach and Andrew Lloyd Webber. (Odd that it seems to attract only people with three names.)

I have been looking into the history of the *Bounty* story and found that it has undergone some very curious treatment in the past. There is a little-known Noel Coward one-act called *Mutiny on the Bounty*, in which the *Bounty* becomes a smart yacht off the South of France, on which the Blighs are having a slightly raffish cocktail party. Things get so out-of-hand that Mr Bligh eventually decides to leave the yacht in the hands of his guests and takes to sea in an open boat, carrying with him only the butler, the caviar and the corkscrew. His parting remark is: "Start rowing, Baines, and head for a country where nobody knows us."

There was also a British film comedy of the 1930s called *Monty on the Bounty* which I have not seen but which apparently is based on the dullness of cooking on a long sea voyage, especially when bread-fruit is all you've got. Maddened by a never-ending diet of bread-fruit and butter pudding, bread-fruit and dripping, and baked beans on toasted bread-fruit, the crew eventually put Captain Bligh and the cook in an open boat, with two weeks' supply of dry bread-fruit and water.

*Matinee on the Bounty* was another film comedy. American this time, about a cruise ship called the *Bounty* touring the South Seas, with a full complement of concert parties, cabaret groups, entertainers and so on. Every time an act went down badly with the passengers it was thrown overboard and made to swim around for a while. Eventually Eddy, sings an impassioned appeal to the passengers to desert. They listen to him thoughtfully and then spontaneously put him in an open boat and send him off accompanied only by a small Hawaiian combo.

This may have been the inspiration for *Mantovani on the Bounty*.

a forgotten English wartime comedy film in which Mantovani is the leader of a ship's orchestra. The musicians eventually mutiny against him to play "Charmaine" in a Little Spanish Town and "Rhapsody" night after night, and put Mantovani adrift in a small boat with enough manuscript paper and batons for a fortnight. It takes more than that to keep Mantovani down, though, and he is promptly rescued by a German U-boat whose crew recognize him and clamour for his autograph. He agrees, on condition, the submarine sinks the ship, containing the rebellious musicians. I believe the film was not thought sufficiently patriotic at the time.

There exists a curious Canadian film of the 1950s called *Monty on the Bounty*. Fred Bligh, a brave, tough, resourceful member of the Mounted Police, sets sail on the *Bounty* to chase a suspect to Australia. After two weeks tension on board, he is given an ultimatum: "Either that horse goes, or you go." Both choose to go off together in an open boat, and they hit the coast of Australia the day before Fred has decided to start eating his horse. Not one of the great animal films, but one of the more unusual.

There is another wartime British film called *Monty on the Bounty*, about which I have been unable to discover anything. Much more up-to-date is an American space fiction movie called *Mutant on the Bounty*. The *Bounty* is a spaceship travelling far galaxies in search of a convincing plot. Unexplained technical troubles on board lead to the discovery by the computer that there is an alien intelligence somewhere in the ship, probably a hostile mutant. At this point the audience all get up, shouting: "My God, not this plot, again!" and leave the cinema en masse.

That's really about it. I believe there is an off-Broadway play called *Martinez on the Bounty*, about the problem of finding 20 illegal Hispanic immigrants in every yacht that arrives in California, but I have read no reviews of it. There is also a book on the market entitled *Martina on the Bounty*, but this is nothing to do with the sea at all - it's all about tennis and the vast amounts of money to be made from it.

Handwritten signature: *Handwritten signature*





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## SCREENING THE IRA

The Home Secretary has told the BBC that it would be contrary to the national interest to broadcast a programme "of the kind apparently envisaged" which contains an interview with Mr Martin McGuinness, the supposed chief of staff of the IRA. He has asked the corporation to desist. His reasons are that the programme for public advocacy of terrorist methods would give succour to a terrorist organization, and that the programme would give spurious legitimacy to the use of violence for political ends.

His advice is prefaced and qualified by the proviso "if the press reports [of the contents of the programme] are accurate". That flaws what he had set out to do. The Home Secretary has the duty, as he has had the opportunity, to satisfy himself about the character of the programme before issuing with the full authority of his office an emphatic public request to the BBC which it is almost impossible for them to refuse.

If this were the Republic of Ireland the programme would not be shown, not because of the communicated disapproval of a minister but because there is law restraining the broadcasting authority from screening men or matters of a proscribed organization. The censorship law goes back to the time when Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien was minister of posts and telegraphs in an earlier coalition government. In Great Britain the IRA has been similarly proscribed since 1976, and for longer in the province of Northern Ireland. To be or profess to be a member of the IRA is an offence which carries a maximum penalty on indictment of five years' imprisonment. But there is no complementary statute of broadcasting censorship.

Both the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary have emphasized the absence of censorship, though Mr Brittan's quasi-diktat is scarcely distinguishable from it. The inhibition he seeks to achieve is not derived from any law; it is traceable rather to the Prime Minister's post TWA/Beirut verbal assault on hijacking and in particular her address to the American Bar Association. She spoke then of starving

terrorists of the oxygen of publicity and called for the media to co-operate in that objective. Mr Brittan is here her whipper-in.

The BBC offers several defences of its programme. It does not break new ground in television's reporting or analysis of Irish terrorism. That is true: it is not the broadcasters' ways that have suddenly changed but the political skies under which those ways are assessed. This programme is not like that deplorable Panorama effort five years ago when the cameras were used for a piece of IRA afterthought in the village of Carrickmore. This is a soberly presented self-exposure of violence-dependent extremism of a kind which press and broadcasting have provided quite a lot of in relation to Ulster. This sort of reporting has enabled terrorists and sympathizers to make propaganda, true; but it has also served the injunction "Know your enemy" which applies to the political nation as well as commanders in the field, and it has raised the level of political consciousness in Great Britain concerning Northern Ireland.

The BBC also emphasizes the "balance" of its programme. Against Mr McGuinness's advocacy of the Irish nationalist "armed struggle" it shows Mr Gregory Campbell of the Democratic Unionist Party. He advocates law enforcement by a policy of "shooting to kill" suspected terrorists, a policy that some units of police and Army are suspected by nationalists of operating, which is officially denied and would be grossly unlawful if it were done. He also prophesies bloody civil war if Britain evacuates, with himself in the middle of it.

The defence of balance is unconvincing. Objection to the advocacy of one set of unlawful and violent activities is not removed by the advocacy of another and opposed set of such activities. Indeed the "balance" is objectionable if it is meant to imply a moral equivalence between the crimes copiously committed by the organization Mr McGuinness espouses and the hypothetical call to arms issued by Mr Campbell for circumstances that are unlikely to arise.

The BBC also points to the fact that whereas Mr McGuinness may (or may not) be a leading light in the IRA he is unquestionably an elected representative Ulsterman, though he has not taken his seat in the body to which he was elected. He was returned for Mr Prior's assembly and later stood in the 1983 general election as a Sinn Féin candidate in the Foyle division where Mr John Hume of the Social Democratic and Labour Party was elected. Had the BBC decided to do a constituency close-up of that election they might have earned the wrath of the Home Secretary if they had given Mr McGuinness a pulpit but they would have been in breach of the law if they had not.

This is the BBC's best line of defence. The Government is not in a very good position to enjoin on the broadcasting authorities censorship of the political message of Irish terrorism so long as the Government itself remains in a state of practical confusion about the political rights of advocates of insurrection in Ulster.

Sinn Féin, which is not proscribed in either the United Kingdom or the Republic, flies a flag of convenience. It is the IRA's political arm. When Mr John Hume, who knows something of these matters, was challenged to debate the national issue with Sinn Féin (this was on television too) he retorted that he would debate only with the men who give Sinn Féin its orders, the army council of the IRA.

In spite of Sinn Féin's terrorist connections the Government gives it a free run at elections, ostensibly in the hope of diverting insurrectionary nationalism into political channels. It then swerves into inconsistency by refusing to treat validly elected Sinn Féin councillors on the same basis as other councillors. Meanwhile the courts in Northern Ireland have ruled against unionist councillors' attempts to block Sinn Féin members in performance of their duties or enjoyment of their prerogatives. It is like much of the Anglo-Irish map, a grey-green area, inhospitable to the censor's sharp distinctions.

## TWO CHEERS FOR DEMOCRACY

The transfer of power in Peru from President Belaunde to his freely elected successor, Señor Alan García, would in better circumstances have been a cause for some justified euphoria. The new president is young, and the leader of a party that has finally gained the presidency, after 50 years of proscription or frustration, with an overwhelming vote against the existing government, way ahead of the rest of the opposition. His inauguration on Sunday was attended by an impressive group of democratically-elected Latin American heads of state, and such a handover has not been seen in Peru for a very long time. But circumstances in that country and in Latin America are such that this was necessarily a restrained and sober occasion.

The state of the Peruvian economy is catastrophic. Always prone to violent fluctuations, it has suffered in recent years from low copper prices and disappointed oil expectations. Liberalization policies have weakened previously over-protected local industry, but have failed to generate any alternative dynamism. Political insecurity and a stagnant national market offer little incentive to foreign investment. Peru is in default on a foreign debt of some eleven billion dollars, and President García has signalled clearly what

he considers the severe limitations on Peru's capacity to pay. Ten per cent of export earnings, which he proposes as the ceiling, is an arbitrary figure. But 60 per cent, the conventional estimate of what is owing, is an impossible one. He is right in considering Peruvian circumstances exceptionally severe. Peru can far more plausibly plead inability than Argentina, Brazil or Mexico, but the immediate consequences in Lima are still further loss of confidence.

The successful conduct of the election amidst economic crisis and the threat of widespread subversion makes the political prospect of the country slightly less sombre. The extremism of the Sendero Luminoso guerrillas is such that it does not attract either easy international sympathy or tangible international support, but at the same time because its activities do not obey the whims of foreign fashion and strategy it is unlikely that they will swiftly cease. The inevitable results are military controls in many of the affected areas, a heavy bill for sabotage and policing and an even heavier one for the indirect economic costs of insecurity in loss of production and investment. There is no simple political or military remedy for this problem, and one small costless item of

assistance that friendly governments can offer President García is a recognition of that fact.

He is certainly more interested in obtaining more tangible help in the form of some joint pronouncement on the problem of foreign debts. The return of democracy to most of Latin America has multiplied and intensified contacts between governments and meetings of heads of government. The attendance at Lima is less impressive for the absences of the presidents of Brazil and Mexico, two major debtors who perhaps prefer to emphasize their independence, and even those gathered in Lima obviously differ in their particular circumstances and strategies. But there is certainly a Latin American consensus that the attention to the problems of the region - outside central America - paid by the Reagan administration has been wholly inadequate.

Later this week in Havana Dr Fidel Castro will expound to an alternative meeting of Latin American political leaders and intellectuals his own more drastic and less western suggestions on how to deal with this persistent crisis. The declarations from Lima come from more responsible persons, who have indicated that they would rather do without Dr Castro's help. They deserve attention.

various sections of the community, particularly young people and black people. The important thing now is not to spoil the ship for a ha'porth of tar.

A key feature of the scheme will be the countryside answering service which will bear the responsibility of responding to requests from suspects and other people helping the police with inquiries for the advice and help of a duty solicitor. The answering service has the potential to provide the base for a 24-hour public service phone network, providing access not only to the duty solicitors but also referring to other services, many of them voluntary, who can help suspects and their families with problems associated with trouble with the police.

Consistent with government policy the contract for the service is being put out to tender to ensure value for money.

There will be significant public investment in the answering service. It is essential therefore that it should provide maximum value to members of the public detained by the police and not serve simply as a means of linking police stations with duty solicitors.

The best means of achieving this, and of engendering maximum

public confidence, would be for the Law Society to ensure that this crucial and complex service is provided by an independent, non-profit-making organization with proven expertise in the advice-giving business.

Yours sincerely,  
BILL GRIFFITHS, Director,  
National Council for Voluntary Organisations,  
28 Bedford Square, WC1,  
July 26.

## Of no importance

From Dr S. J. Wallace  
Sir, The addition of Esq to a female name might be regarded as a slip of the computer, but the belief that only men will attain higher professional status is still alive.

One college regards all its members and fellows as male. On being admitted to membership, and later to fellowship, I received certificates referring to *virtus ornatum*. The college surely underestimates *scientiam femininam*.

Yours faithfully,  
SHEILA J. WALLACE,  
Allermuir,  
101 Chapel Road,  
Abercromby, Gwent,  
July 24.

## Power stations in the countryside

From the Director of the Council for the Protection of Rural England

Sir, Your article, "CEGB honours its nuclear strategy" (July 19) examines the Central Electricity Generating Board's current thinking about nuclear power. But it overlooked the most central political issue to arise from the "intense commitment to a pressurised water reactor strategy" of the board's chairman, Sir Walter Marshall.

The key question is surely: Would massive investment in new nuclear power stations at this stage - the ordering of a series of pressurised water reactors (PWRs), each one costing upwards of a probable £1.5 billion - make any sense at all in national resource terms?

The fact is, the pattern of investment now sought by CEGB could prove a major waste of scarce public funds when compared with the true medium-term alternative in the energy sector, which is a redirection of this and other public investment towards improving efficiencies of energy use across the public sector and in domestic and industrial equipment and appliances throughout the economy.

The Government and CEGB have tried to maintain at the Sizewell inquiry that such a programme of conservation investment can never be seen as a serious alternative to new power stations - but they have done so on the basis of disgracefully thin study of the opportunities.

By contrast, recent research by bodies like the Association for the Conservation of Energy, Earth Resources Research, National Gas Consumers Council and my own Council for the Protection of Rural England (for the Sizewell inquiry) has shown that, in present circumstances, new public expenditure on improved energy efficiencies in the UK could well be more cost-effective and a better energy buy for the nation (and the public sector borrowing requirement in particular) than immediate investment in large new power stations. The experience of many US utilities already confirms this.

If the CEGB's "PWR strategy" is now permitted, huge misallocations of public funds are likely to intensify. It is not only economic and social penalties that will result - but also serious environmental controversies, embroiling many rural constituencies.

In such controversies, the question of whether large new power stations in attractive countryside areas will present itself again and again. But, having refused to take seriously the question of "alternative" conservation investment, neither the CEGB nor the Government will command any genuine authority on the matter. While this continues, public scepticism - and environmental controversy - can only grow.

So far the Secretary of State for Energy has shown a dangerous insouciance about the issue. How long will this continue?

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN GROVE-WHITE, Director,  
Council for the Protection of Rural England,  
4 Hobart Place, SW1,  
July 24.

## Slothful Sassenachs

From Mrs Shirley E. Page

Sir, I would like to know why it is that the Scotch have taken in their stride numerous social reforms and improvements to the quality of life north of the border which seem to cause the English such agonizing decision-making.

These aspects of life include the abolition of corporal punishment in schools, the banning of alcohol on football grounds, all-day licensing hours, easy property transactions with no chains or gazumping and staggered public holidays and Sunday trading.

Having recently moved south it is difficult to understand why, when the Scottish example is so successful, the English cannot learn from it and take action.

Yours faithfully,  
SHIRLEY E. PAGE,  
Fields House,  
Udismore,  
Rye, East Sussex.

## Saleroom deception

From Mr David Mason

Sir, Geraldine Norman's excellent article in today's *Times* (July 23) accurately refers to the deception of the buyers' premium at salerooms. What about the practice of starting the bidding for an article with a reserve of £2,000 at £300, in the hope of kidding people that it can be bought cheap? If that is not a deception then what is?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID MASON, Chairman,  
MacConnell-Mason Gallery,  
14 Duke Street, SW1.

## Curbs on planning

From Mr Alan Tate

Sir, Councillor Cummins (July 19) opposes changes in planning regulations by examples which do not help his case.

Many planning authorities have policies to resist building societies in shopping streets. When such policies succeed they do not, of course, ensure that the units are used as shops because no planning permission is necessary to change a shop to a hairdresser's, undertaker, travel agency or ticket agency. Planning permission is needed to change a betting shop to a building society branch, but would not be necessary to change Councillor Cummins's local Tesco into an undertaker's parlour.

In any event numerous appeal decisions confirm that a building society is likely to attract more visitors than the average shop of the same size and policy control No 11 confirms that building societies,

## Reform of mortgage tax relief

From Mr D. W. Dungeate

Sir, Before the debate on housing policy gets under way we should be clear what mortgage interest tax relief really is. The Government allows the mortgagor to retain a greater proportion of his earned income because of his heavy mortgage burden. There is a case for restricting relief to the basic tax rate, but in no sense is it a hand-out by the Government.

Contrast the mortgagor's position with that of a tenant. The private (and housing association) tenant pays a "fair" rent which although based on rental value is discounted because of the scarcity of accommodation to let. In other words, he is subsidised either at his landlord's or at the public's expense.

The council tenant pays a rent unrelated to value, but determined purely by political considerations. Because it has always been in the interest of all political parties to keep council house rents as low as possible, the country now faces the problem and cost of massive displacement of publicly-owned dwellings which is surely a national disgrace.

By all means reform the basis of housing benefit, so that all tenants genuinely in need of relief obtain it; but it does not follow that rents based on capital values would, as between one dwelling and another, be as fair to tenants as the present basis which is, albeit loosely, based on letting values.

Intelligent reform of our cloud-cuckoo-land housing finance is long overdue, but let us not start by abolishing what is probably the only fair part of it.

Yours faithfully,  
D. W. DUNGEATE,  
90 Poplar Grove,  
Maidstone, Kent,  
July 26.

From Mr John Heddle, MP for Staffordshire Mid (Conservative)

Sir, Good housing is at the root of family life, bad housing the seedcorn of urban decay, inner city deterioration, crime and violence.

## Direct grant schools

From Mr Geoffrey Woollard

Sir, As an active Conservative, I can understand the feelings of the former Bishop of Chester (July 24), because I want to conserve the best of the past.

However, times have changed since the socialist abolition of the direct grant schools. Most of the country has comprehensive secondary education and selection, of which the direct grant system was only a part, has largely disappeared.

To revive direct grant schools, as the Prime Minister is reported to have supported, in a predominantly comprehensive system, without reviving grammar schools as well, would have the effect of "creaming off" a small but vital percentage of the higher ability children from our comprehensive schools. I regard my own children's "success" in a Cambridgeshire comprehensive

school, as attributable as much to the quality of their peers as to the quality of the school and its teachers.

I believe that it is too late to consider reviving the former system but I also believe that much could be achieved, restoring former links, by using some sixth forms in former direct grant schools and other prominent independent schools as part of a choice of provision at the age of 16-plus.

This idea emerged from within the Conservative Party in 1979 and it has principle, logic and political benefit, whilst increasing choice and helping to rebuild bridges between the independent and maintained sectors.

Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY WOOLLARD,  
Chalk Farm,  
Bottisham,  
Cambridgeshire,  
July 24.

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Yours faithfully,  
GEOFFREY WOOLLARD,  
Chalk Farm,  
Bottisham,  
Cambridgeshire,  
July 24.

## Recalling VJ Day

From Lord Chelwood

Sir, It will be welcome news to everyone that a Battle of Britain service is to be held in Westminster Abbey on Sunday, September 15. The deeply moving service on May 8 to mark the fortieth anniversary of the end of the war in Europe will long live in our memories.

A great many people, of whom I am one, had hoped to learn that a similar service will be held in remembrance of VJ Day and the end of the Second World War. The pilgrimage that is planned for widows and veterans to visit the Far East later this year will bring comfort to the small number of men and women who take part. But it can take no account of the many thousands of ex-prisoners who came home only to die prematurely or who still suffer ill health as a result of their treatment in prison, or of countless relatives and friends for whom the anniversary is of special significance.

A service of remembrance in churches of all denominations throughout the land would surely be a badly-needed sign that they are not forgotten.

Yours sincerely,  
CHELWOOD,  
House of Lords,  
July 23.

## Checks on Ombudsman

From Councillor David Conway

Sir, I read Mr Morgan's letter on the local government Ombudsman (July 23) with interest, but would argue from my own experience that there is merit in the practice of requiring complaints to the Ombudsman being forwarded via elected councillors.

Of the six complaints of this type I have dealt with in the past two

years, I have been able to resolve four to the satisfaction of all parties quite promptly, without need to involve the Ombudsman. The other two, where my constituents wished to take the matter further, took the Ombudsman eight to ten weeks to decide upon: as it happens, he found that neither case merited further investigation.

If my experience is par for the course, it suggests that to allow or encourage applicants to complain directly to the Ombudsman would have two most unwelcome effects: it could deluge the commissioner with unnecessary work, and, perhaps more seriously, could delay solution of the complainant's problems in the majority of cases.

Yours truly,  
DAVID CONWAY,  
London Borough of Enfield,  
Members Room,  
PO Box No 50,  
Civic Centre,  
Silver Street, Enfield, Middlesex,  
July 23.

## Survivors in power

From Mr Charles H. Gray

Sir, According to John Campbell, in his review of Lord Blake's *The Decline of Power* (July 25) the author concludes with the attribution to Talleyrand of the reply to the well-known quotation of the reply to the question "What did you do during the Revolution?" "I survived."

I am surprised that your reviewer did not spot the mistake. This reply is invariably attributed to the Abbé Sieyès who, according to *The Oxford Book of Quotations*, said "J'ai vécu". For some reason this is usually rendered by writers in English as "I survived".

Yours obediently,  
C. H. GRAY,  
23 Finborough Road, SW10,  
July 25.

This is a particularly serious matter since many planning authorities, particularly in the south of England, have policies of restraint on employment based on structure plan policies justified by reference to survey material which is very much out of date.

The Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers made a recent submission to the Secretary of State about the need to revise the use classes order which is, like many regulations today, a positive brake on sensible and much-needed development which could be carried out without prejudice to any interest of acknowledged importance.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN TATE (Chairman, Planning and Development Committee, Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers),  
Birch House,  
Potters Close,  
Loughdon,  
Essex,  
July 19.

## ON THIS DAY

JULY 30 1844

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, commonly called the "Mormon" church was founded by Joseph Smith in 1830 in New York State. In 1838 the church was established in its own, new city Nauvoo, Illinois, which in a short time had a population of 20,000. Political differences arose among the leaders and Smith, as mayor, ordered the destruction of his opponent's printing presses. For this act he, with his brother Hiram, was imprisoned by the state at Carthage, Illinois, where on June 27 1844, an armed mob broke in and murdered the brothers.

## AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

NEW YORK, JULY 15.

The Mormon prophet, Joe Smith, and his brother, Hiram Smith, are both dead. They were murdered in the debtors' prison at Carthage, on or about the 25th of June. In my letter of the 30th ult. I gave you a statement of the Mormon difficulties, so far as an account of them had been received in this city. From that statement the most careful consequences were to be apprehended. Those apprehensions have been realized.

The circumstances attending the death of these men are very differently represented by the parties for and against them. It is said by their enemies, that the Smiths, while within the prison, fired with pistols upon the guard, and then attempted to escape, whereupon the guard returned the fire, and that they were then slain. I have taken some trouble to ascertain the facts, and have come to the conclusion that the following statement is as near the truth as anything that has yet appeared in print, but I may be mistaken.

On a solemn pledge given by Governor Ford of Illinois, that their persons should be protected from injury by a mob, Joe and Hiram Smith, with others, suffered themselves to be arrested, and were removed to the jail at Carthage, there to await a trial for any crime they might be charged with having committed. Everything appeared to be peaceful, and only a small guard was left to protect the prisoners from being injured or from escaping.

On or about the 25th of June a mob, consisting of 60 or 70 men, all disguised, entered the jail, in strength numbering only six or eight into the jail, and immediately commenced firing through the door of the room in which the prisoners were confined, wounding the Prophet; whereupon he and his brother fled to a window, and were in the act of jumping out, when Joe received three balls in his body and fell dead upon the ground. Hiram fell inside of the prison, having received 10 or 12 balls through his body. These were the only Mormons killed. One or two other persons were wounded. The dead bodies were removed to Nauvoo ("the holy city") to be interred with great solemnity. The followers of Smith were greatly exasperated, but kept in subjection by their leaders. Smith's mother is said to possess a controlling influence, which was exerted in the preservation of order, and the suppression of violence. At the last accounts everything was tranquil....

## Proscription of IRA

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest (Conservative)

Sir, Your welcome leader of today (July 23) "Condemnation of the IRA" contained an inaccuracy. Perhaps from an understandable confusion with its political front, Sinn Féin, you suggested that the IRA is illegal in the Irish Republic but not in the United Kingdom.

In Great Britain the IRA and the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) are proscribed under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, and both are illegal in Northern Ireland, as are the so-called loyalist Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF), Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF), and Red Hand Commando, all proscribed under the Emergency Provisions Act.

For both British and Irish governments the IRA etc are what Dr FitzGerald calls "the common enemy". The closer our anti-terrorist co-operation the firmer will be the confidence of the Northern Ireland people in their Government.

I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant,  
JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON,  
House of Commons,  
July 25.

## Little-known phrases

From Mr George Speaight

Sir, A few years ago I found myself sharing a sleeping compartment on the Moscow to Leningrad express with a commander in the Soviet Navy. Our only means of communication was my Russian phrase book. The first phrase in it was "Help! I am lost!"

The book, we discovered, had been prepared by the United States Department of the Army. When I suggested that this was for the use of the parachutists, the commander's laughter, in which I unkindly joined, was enough to arouse the entire coach from its slumbers.

Yours faithfully,  
GEORGE SPEAIGHT,  
6 Maze Road,  
New Gardens,  
Richmond,  
Surrey.

From Baroness Twickel

Sir, Some 100-odd years ago an aunt of mine was unsuccessfully taught French from a lesson book which I inherited. In it was a picture of a broken-down covered wagon in a storm and underneath the phrase, *Est-il arrivé un accident au chariot?*

Years later my aunt was actually involved in a road accident in France and, seeing an opportunity for making use of her entire knowledge of the language, approached the distraught driver and did so.

Yours faithfully,  
ANN TWICKEL,  
Spiney House,  
Coughton,  
Aclester,  
Warwickshire.







## THE ARTS

## Opera

## Searching for style

Teseo  
Covent Garden

The Royal Northern College piped the English Bach Festival to the post by presenting in March Handel's eighth opera, *Teseo*, for what seemed to be the first time since its 1713 Haymarket premiere. The RNC's production had to content itself with being the first in the baroque style.

Manchester sought to melt Handel's story of love and rivalry out of its hybrid mould of French *tragédie lyrique* and Italian *opera seria* by seeking a spurious dramatic *transparence* in the reign of George V. London, on the other hand, put *Teseo* back in the deep-freeze, framed by Carlinian perspectives, contained a formalized theatre of the high baroque. The opera's French ancestry was rapped out with the fountain's stick, "habits new and richer than the former", just as in 1713, weighed down their wearers, divisions between and within aria, recitative and ensemble were unashamedly emphasized and reinforced by gesture and music.

There is a difference, though, between dutiful imitation and imaginative recreation, between presenting a style and creating a style, and neither Tom Hawkes, producing, nor Jean-Claude Malgoire, conducting, quite found it.

The production obviously had money yet not quite enough to provide more than rather strange lighting and grizzly chorus movement for Medea's nastier moments. The orchestra, obviously, has fine players, but Malgoire made for too little of some of Handel's most exciting pacing and orchestration.

The main difficulty, though, lay in the authentic, but problematic, casting of a work with no natural male voices. Too many of the singers were fine artists in their own right, but with voices unsuited to either experience or register to their parts.

Aglaia, for instance, who has more and better arias than almost anyone else on stage, was something of a trial for Marilyn Hill Smith, and her audience. Penelope Walker, who sang with authoritative presence, and far greater command of Handel's vocal style, still lacked the right tang and colour for the young officer Arcane, though her trumpeting Act IV aria was magnificent. Robin Martin-Oliver, the only male singer, was a flamboyant, leggy, high-carat but over-soft solo.

Sarah Walker pulled yet another trick out of her bag of tricks. Her entry as Medea really got things going: "Dance repose was the first instance of music and movement focusing and galvanizing dramatic purpose. As for Teseo himself, Zebava Gal, alone of anyone on stage, carried the weight of both body and voice to an expressive intensity worthy of Handel's best writing.

Hilary Finch

The good news from Aix this year is that its main festival, the *Théâtre de l'Archéoché*, has been completely rebuilt, refurbished and expanded. The proscenium still nestles gracefully in the honey-coloured stone of the original seventeenth-century Archbishops' Palace, and the swirls still circle noisily in the indigo sky. But now the rear of the courtyard has been pushed back about 15 feet and the auditorium nudged into an hexagonal shape, with

## Galleries

## Bringing out the voyeur in the viewer

Eric Fischl:  
Paintings  
ICAEdward Allington:  
New Sculpture  
Riverside StudiosEdward Allington:  
Bronzes and Drawings  
LissonNature Morte  
Edward TotahJonathan Gibbs:  
New Works  
Curwen

A friend of mine, whose English is fluent but not altogether idiomatic, persists in calling visitors to exhibitions and viewers of art "the voyeurs". We recognize what he means, of course. There are also times when we cannot help recognizing the justice of what he is saying but not quite deliberately meaning. Particularly at the ICA until August 21, while the artist on show is Eric Fischl.

Fischl was born in 1948 in New York, but just to confuse matters got his first substantial showing in Europe, in Basel in 1978, as a Canadian painter — mainly because he had been living and teaching in Nova Scotia for four years. At that very moment he moved back to New York, where he has lived ever since. But evidently he has retained happy connections north of the border, since the present show began its life in Saskatoon and will be going back to Toronto before it moves on to Chicago and New York. From Saskatoon, evidently, comes the glossy and elaborate catalogue, documented in the expansive North American way. But for once, I admit, there is in it a very perceptive essay, "Voyeurism, American-Style", by Donald B. Kuspit, which asks all the right questions and, as there are right answers, comes to them. For the intriguing thing about Fischl is undoubtedly his mysterious, ambiguous subject-matter and his equally mysterious and ambiguous attitude to it. Not to mention the various undignified postures he forces us into in relation to it.

Consider a few characteristic paintings. Say, *Master Bedroom*, where an almost naked girl in curlers embraces with ecstatic affection a large black dog on the large bed. Or *Daddy's Girl*, where an entirely naked man cuddles a small naked girl on a lounge on a sunny terrace. Or *A Woman Possessed*, where a woman (asleep? unconscious?) is surrounded protectively or perhaps aggressively by several dogs while a boy looks on. Or *Sleepwalker*, which is at least relatively straightforward: a boy stands call-deep in a small

padding pool, dreamily masturbating. In the last, at least we know what is going on, though our reasons for being there, watching it, will admit of many explanations, few of them actually very creditable. With the others, though, the eye of the beholder becomes a vital part of the experience, and governing the eye (or is it the other way round?), the mind. Is it just because we have nasty minds that we feel there is something not quite right about the scenes in front of us, that what may be perfectly innocent somehow invites us to provide a perverse explanation?

One thing seems certain: Fischl himself could not, even if he wished to, play the innocent. He is manipulating us deliberately, even if we show a quite unselfish willingness to be manipulated. Like Hitchcock in *Rear Window*, Fischl seems to be admitting to his own voyeuristic impulses, and at the same time making us face the fact that we all have them, that we are all accomplices, that not so deep down we all really want the most inhuman explanation to be the true one. He is, to say the least, a very efficient and painterly painter. But finally it is his grasp of psychology which fascinates, and the rest is just a transparent envelope through which we can read his message.

The message of Edward Allington, now, is much harder to read. You would not exactly call him an abstract artist, but yet you would not exactly say that he is not. If his works — the drawings, the sculptures, the

But is it really as innocent as it looks? — Eric Fischl's *Master Bedroom*

large installation at Riverside which contains both — suggest anything, it is something faintly surreal. Perhaps this has to do with the curious abstract perspectives in which his objects are housed, rather like those pale yellow sands of Lord Berners's poem, which displayed "An eyeball entangled in string. And a piece of raw meat. And a bicycle seat. And a thing that is almost a Thing". Allington's things that are almost a thing are sometimes shells or pieces of slightly anthropomorphized furniture with no perceptible function, or wandering shards of baroque architecture. Sometimes they are drawn, sometimes they are solid structures or succored wood and plaster, sometimes they partake of both forms, so that the thing may be real but the shadow painted, and everything anyway thrown into question by the way that we are seeing it, inside a large light box into which we peep (voyeurism again) through a misshapen roccoco frame.

The last installation is at the Riverside Studios gallery until Sunday along with some other sculptures which appear to have escaped, and may well have plunged into the Thames and headed for the open sea by the time you get there. Other bronzes and drawings are more securely entrapped in the Lisson Gallery, but only until Saturday: after that, it is every thing for itself.

Talking of things with a life of their own reminds me that there is a necessary footnote to what I was saying a couple of

weeks ago about the return of the long unfashionable "theme show" to West End galleries. At Edward Totah (now, remember, at 13 Old Burlington Street) until August 30 there is a show called *Nature Morte*, for which he has persuaded some two dozen artists to try their hand at still-life. If that is, they were not doing it already. Of course, it is what Patrick Caulfield does all the time, or Lisa Milroy, whose folded or hanging clothes are perhaps becoming a little too predictable. Mind you, Italians might for all I know say the same about Emilio Tadini's elusive sketches of clothes hanging, but here at least they have the surprise of relative unfamiliarity.

More interesting, in general, are the works by painters not usually given to the still-life. One can think of little, in principle, further from the wilful and combative talents of Alexis Hunter, and sure enough her reddish/orange painting of some glass on a tray does strongly suggest that many extraordinary things she may be.

But Morandi she isn't. Miguel Fernandez, on the other hand, who has recently been painting almost exclusively teasing pictures of little naked men hiding among giant jungle leaves, comes up as intense and puzzling, but quite different: the bunch hangs from a butcher's hook, over a loudspeaker (I think) and against a background tight-packed with leaves, but this time glossy, white, enamelled. Why? What does it all mean? Many

questions hang from that hook, but the image that results is unforgettable.

Finally, a last chance — just until Saturday — to see a show of unusual delicacy, refinement and, for want of a better word, charm. And all — the paintings and the drawings anyway — completely and happily abstract. The artist is Jonathan Gibbs, last seen in London at the late lamented Hulsborough Gallery, and he is non-representational in a way that very few British artists of his generation (the early thirties are, i.e., there is no appreciable indication of landscape lurking in the background of his works, not even a feeling that they may be like measured drawings for some unexecuted construction. The images exist with perfect comfort in two dimensions, displaying the maker's exquisite, slightly Deco sense of colour (with a particular enjoyment of brick reds and slate blues), and should be ideally easy to live with.

From the portfolio of woodcuts we discover that Gibbs is also an accomplished representative draughtsman when he wishes to be, and that is perhaps the explanation of the show's general air of ease and tranquillity: it expresses a talent totally at home in its own chosen limits. And yet still developing: he has come a long way since last seen four years ago. A paradox, but one that only spices enjoyment.

John Russell Taylor



Idiomatic vigour: Diana Montague as Cherubino

the single idea so confused in its execution, the precious hours are laboriously filled with sycophant of ridiculously postured, mannered gesture, which kills the essential social and emotional dynamism of the work.

It would be nice to report that the score, at least, was safe in the hands of John Eliot Gardiner. But the disillusionment shown throughout the French press at the behaviour of their hero was, alas, entirely justified. The Orchestre de l'Opéra de Lyon, meticulously chosen and schooled by Gardiner, were faultlessly attentive. But in his phrasing, pacing and general rapport with his singers, Gardiner showed little indication that his assimilation of the work was thorough enough to provide a momentum which could combat the enervating effect of the staging.

Each member of the cast sang for his or her self; but it was good to hear Lella Cuberli, making her Aix debut as the Countess. This was a sturdy, spirited voice of distinct character, surely capable, some day, of creating a role of considerable understanding. Christine Barbaux's Susanna glittered as well as it could against Gilles Cachemaille's rougher, darker Figaro, and Thomas Hampson's Count almost managed to move the clock hands forward in his "Vedro mentre io sospiro". Diana Montague and Nancy Argenta (Cherubino and Barbe-

rina) alone showed any real sense of idiomatic vigour.

Although he has no desire to perform it with the modern strings of his Lyons orchestra, Gardiner would surely have been happier in the pit than in the audience at Aix's second opera, Monteverdi's *Orfeo*. No one expected a production of any real degree of baroque authenticity: Michael Corboz was in the pit, using Edward Tarr's ludicrously plain, literal edition, and was the film director Claude Gorcia's (*The Lacemaker*) first opera.

The Orchestre de l'Opéra de Lyon, with original continuo instruments, played perceptively enough: sparkling high violin and recorder solos and well-balanced timbres edged Corboz's somewhat bland pacing with a welcome luminosity.

As for the voices, Gino Quilico's gruff Orfeo — more Verdi than Monteverdi — and the three shepherds of Kim von Binzer, Jean Nirouet and Francois le Roux, refilled parts which were drained of any harmonic or rhythmic tension with a dramatic *verismo* which moved in its own virile, if totally unmythical, way. Audrey Michael's Eurydice and, above all, Carolyn Watkinson's Messenger alone touched Monteverdi's nerve-centre.

This was, after all, an *Orfeo* for the eye. Although Erato has released a same-cast recording to coincide with the Aix opening it was quite obviously the cinema version, to be premiered at Venice's Mostra this September, which dominated Goretta's conception. Shifting sand-dunes, now ochre, now black, and silhouetted against a sky of torrid blue or lowering magenta, form Jacques Bufoir's setting for the breeze-blown dancing and mime of the Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève. The substantial chorus remains in the pit: meanwhile the dancers, veiled and veiling in diaphanous black or white, guide and sympathize. It is a production made above all for panning, zooming and mixing, on stage its delicate beauty tends to the fee.

Hilary Finch

## Television

## The force of finality

After the Bomb (BBC 1) opened with a quotation: "Suddenly, at two minutes past eleven, I was looking out that way and there was a flash". That "flash" has haunted the contemporary imagination ever since, and last night's *Nagasaki — Return Journey* was the first in a series of programmes marking the 40 uneasy years since the first atomic bombs.

Its purpose was to record the late reactions of two men who had witnessed the event: Leonard Cheshire had been despatched as an "observer" (as if so passive or objective a role is possible in the face of extreme events), and Geoffrey Sherring was incarcerated in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp, only a mile away from the site of the explosion. It was in fact Sherring who struck the most unexpected note: the bomb "lifted our hearts that day" since, for the allied prisoners, the only alternative was death at the hands of the captors.

This documentary also re-emphasized the point that the atomic explosions abbreviated what would otherwise have been a long and bloody war against the Japanese on their

own territory, and restated the fact that conventional bomb attacks had often been far more destructive. Sherring himself seemed to think that the atomic bomb represented "retribution on a cruel and treacherous people", while Cheshire described it as a "merciful end" to the war. So the consequences of the "nuclear option" are not easy to formulate, and it was a merit of this documentary that it did not attempt to oversimplify them.

But the reminiscences of these two men, at least, had great clarity since they were possessed with the force which comes from the description of all last things: "You couldn't think of the city," said Cheshire of those moments when he stared into the heart of the atomic cloud, "You could think of nothing." Of course the testimony of the Japanese survivors had its own special horror, and this in part because they suffered the fate which, we fear might be visited upon ourselves, in every possible way, this was a difficult programme to watch.

Peter Ackroyd

## Cheltenham Festival

## Fluent eclecticism

Bournemouth  
Sinfonietta/Litton  
Cheltenham Town Hall

Robin Holloway's great problem in the past, or so it has often been said, has been his eclecticism. The harp's great problem as a concerto instrument is its relative quietness. Both qualities, though, have now been harnessed by Holloway in his new work for harp and orchestra, *Ballad*, Op. 61, given its first performance on Sunday in the final, and sadly sparsely attended, concert of this year's Cheltenham Festival.

To solve the balance problem, much of the work is written in alternative fashion, the orchestra largely providing a sensitively-painted landscape before which the solo instrument, often entirely on its own, conveys the music's messages. Holloway likens his process to that in a hall of mirrors, where the work's name in which the verses relate the story between the choruses, only in this case the choruses are far from unchanging.

As for eclecticism the charge still holds true, but Holloway is

quite certain of his direction and his language is fluent enough, and indeed ultimately original enough, to negate any worries about lack of ingenuity in that department.

Here the opulence of the orchestral writing goes hand in hand with a terseness of expression to make, for instance, the tiny suspicion of unthinking ritualism in the first movement seem an irrelevance. His exploitation there of the howling sounds of the high horns and of the purple colours of the bass clarinet is particularly effective, while the string intonello that frames the three solo "stanzas" of the middle movement has about it the quiet, celestial immobility of Messiaen, leaving the soloist to weave magic spells with an unblinking stream of lyricism.

Where one does have reservations is in the finale, which attempts to combine the rhapsody and tension of the previous movement and resolve the conflict. Here the omnipresent woodwinds are strongest, but the brusque juxtapositions and changes of direction do sometimes seem contrived, though the effect of coming home to rest very much in a minor now no longer feels uncomfortable as it used to.

The piece could not have received a more eloquent or committed performance than that of Osian Ellis, whose confidence and virtuosity were fully matched by the Bournemouth Sinfonietta under Andrew Litton. They also gave taut performances of Haydn's Symphony No. 83 and Mendelssohn's First Symphony — written, astonishingly, at the age of 15 — and, for money, reaching greater heights than one or two of its better-known successors.

Stephen Pettitt

Promenade  
ConcertECYO/Abbado  
Albert Hall/Radio 3

Mahler had need of words to make explicit the declaration of faith comprised in his Second Symphony, the "Resurrection", of which he once wrote that its musical exposition begins "at the door which leads into the world where things are no longer separated by space and time". He set the Klopstock text as a kind of beacon to light the homeward way only at the very end of his symphonic journey.

It was a journey undertaken bravely on Sunday by the eager forces of the European Community Youth Orchestra, impressively in sound as they were in weight of numbers, as the outset of their own summer journey that takes them from the London Proms to Athens, Japan, and back to half a dozen more capitals of the European Community. Most of these are to hear their music director, Claudio Abbado, conduct the Mahler symphony as he did here.

He must rejoice to have such responsive young players able to encompass the extremes of Mahlerian tone-painting, from the tragic feeling and subtle detail of the opening movement's funeral march in its various guises to the ultimate grandiloquence. There were degrees of shading at this performance that made a telling distinction of dynamics even between soft and softer, and in balance of timbre.

Once the first movement was past, the conductor treated the remaining four as a continuous sequence, hurrying the second movement towards more of a minuet character, and letting the third generate an almost relentless pulse for its "dance of life". Only in some of the sardonic undertones, and in the swooping portamento asked of the strings, was some playing not wholly secure.

Christa Ludwig was the deeply expressive soloist in the "Urfahrt" movement, and the young Finnish soprano Karita Mattila, in her Prom debut, raised expectations for her forthcoming Mozart roles at Covent Garden by her effortlessly soaring line in the finale. Here too the combined forces of the BBC and London Symphony choruses, with the Wiener Jeunesse choir, rising to eight tiers of seats, voiced a magnificent corona of E flat splendour.

Noël Goodwin

## Aix-en-Provence Festival

## Wasteful obsession with time

The addition of two dipping balconies and some 500 extra seats. The vastly improved stage equipment means that the festival can now accommodate up to four operas and next year four productions are on the cards.

The bad news is that the excitement of it all seems to have gone somewhat to the head of the festival's director, Louis Erlo. Since 1982, when he took over from Bernard Lefort, the festival has been characterized by his praiseworthy policy of using not only young performers but young stage directors. His latest discovery is Pier Luigi Pier'Alli, an architect with barely two years' experience in opera. He was entrusted with the production, sets and costumes of a Nozze di Figaro which will also open the season in Lyons, and play in co-production at Nice and La Fenice, Venice. It provided a sadly anti-climatic opening at Aix.

It all goes like clockwork.

Time, indeed, is made the work's sole obsession, as it progresses slowly and inexorably to Figaro's wedding day. The new space, now an immense black void, is dotted with isolated figures and dominated by a huge central clock-face. Cherubino leaps out of it into the first act; in the second it becomes a mirror (that Narcissus-pool of so many directors), and is flanked by two vertical clock-cases, their cogwheels lurching into action at any possibly significant moment.

But, as Alice said to the Mad Hatter, Pier'Alli might have done something better with Time than waste it in asking riddles that have no answers. Because the conceit is so naive,

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July 30 1985



In all other respects, however, the minority shareholders are getting a good deal. If anything, earnings and assets per share will immediately be increased by the merger. Long term benefits, once Octopus's marketing and distribution techniques and its greater international presence are applied to Heinemann, could prove impressive. The stock market delivered an unambiguous verdict: the shares were marked up 35p to 570p.

Despite equities' late spurt, their response to an officially sponsored move towards cheaper money was hardly Cram-like. Traders either do not believe that the Confederation of British Industry has captured the heart and mind of the

the most spectacular performer has been rhodium, one of the platinum group metals. Its price has gone up from \$610 an ounce to almost \$800. Rhodium is an essential component in car exhaust catalysts.

Most of the 200,000 ounces of rhodium consumed annually in the West comes from South Africa as a byproduct of platinum output. The Soviet Union and Canada are also suppliers. It is understood that Johnson Matthey, a leader in platinum group metals technology, is conserving its stocks.

Over the same period, cadmium has risen from 65 cents a pound to 95 cents, selenium from \$6.10 to \$7.10 a pound, and silicon metal from \$1,100 to \$1,200 a tonne.

One trader said: "There has been a minor whirlwind in a number of metals in the last week". Part of the rise has been caused by merchants taking positions which anticipate price increases.

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FT Ind. Ord.	10,000
FT - A-All Share	10,000
FT Govt Securities	10,000
FT-SE 100	10,000
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close \$263.00-\$32	10,000
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Yesterday's performance of various key stocks leaves this theory a little tainted, but still standing. The long-dated Treasury 13½ per cent 2004-08, improved by a solid half point. A well-followed early medium - date - Treasury 11½ per cent 1991 - opened some half point ahead, but then faded. Meanwhile, Treasury 12 per cent 1995, sporting a 10.9 per cent yield, moved ahead by five-eighths.

Sir Malcolm's achievement resulted in a profit on the sale of £29.6 million, a figure that dwarfs every other NEB transaction during the year. After the stick he has taken for the Midland Bank's untimely acquisition of Crocker National, Mr Barker's words will warm his soul. But for the buyer of Inmos they are ashes. Peter Laister, then chairman of Thorn EMI, has had to pay the price of Sir Malcolm's negotiating skill.

Money market rates opened sharply lower, three-month interbank rate opening at  $11\frac{1}{8}$ - $11\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. However, the one-month interbank rate, presently of more importance to the

Yesterday, the pound rose 2.15 cents to \$1.4287 in London, its highest closing level

While the outlook for British interest rates is good, fears are emerging of higher rates in the United States.

A "hard landing", where the dollar falls so fast that interest rates have to be raised to slow its drop, is expected by 10 per cent.

Security Pacific, the Californian banking group, plans to underwrite life and certain types of general insurance in Britain. The group has applied to the US Federal Reserve Board for approval and expects to submit an application to the Department of Trade and Industry within the next two weeks.

Mr Robert Morlan, president of Security Pacific Insurance Services, said that about £2.5 million of capital would be committed initially to two companies. One would underwrite credit and non-credit life business; the other credit-related general insurance such as accident and health insurance.

Norton Opax, the printing and publishing business enlarged by the acquisition of Sir Joseph Causton, increased pre-tax profits from £1.3 million to £2.2 million in the year to March 31, on turnover up from £17.6 million to £40.7 million.

**F H Tomkins**, the fastener distributor, lifted profits from £2.37 million to £3.52 million before tax in the year to May 4. Turnover was up from £25.9 million to £35.8 million and the dividend is 2.25p (1.8p).

reappointed to audit Dunlop, eight months after being replaced by Price, Waterhouse, Ernst & Whinney audits the accounts of BTR, which took over Dunlop in March. It lost the Dunlop audit when Sir Michael Edwardes was Dunlop chairman.

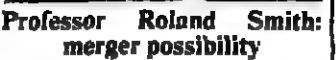
Bullough, the office furniture manufacturers, saw profits rise from £4.46 million to £4.7 million before tax in the year to April 30. Turnover was up from £36.6 million to £49.5 million and the interim dividend is raised from 2.5p to 2.7p.

Johnson Matthey plc, the industrial company which was separated from Johnson Matthey Bankers after the latter's collapse, has reached agreement in principle with its bankers on a refinancing package. A formal signing is expected soon. Under the new facility, £75 million will be applied to reducing existing debt.

The following are now included in the Stock Exchange prices list and will be published daily under Industrials: Hanson Trust 5.75 per cent convertible preference and Isoiron Ordinary.

New measures announced centred on certification and standards whereby, over the next three years, the system will become "freedom in principle, restrictions only as exceptions."

Yesterday Fraser bought more Debenhams shares, taking his stake close to 16 per cent. Mr Robert Thornton, the Debenhams chairman, said: "I sincerely hope that we will soon be announcing something with



House of Fraser". There is a lot more to be said for a commercial link with Fraser than anyone else."

The government-to-government memorandum of understanding, which originally gave the contract to BAe and which has been renewed three times, has had its life extended to next spring. It was due to expire at the end of next month, and the extra time will give the Saudis time to work out how to parcel

BAe has 1,600 staff working on the contract, and Mrs Thatcher was asked to make a special request that it stay exclusively with the company when she met King Fahd in

US officials said yesterday they feared the defiant move by Senior Alan Garcia Perez, the president of Peru, reflected a new strategy among Latin American nations for more concessions on their combined \$360 billion foreign debt.



On Friday, Newman Tonks and its advisers, Hill Samuel, issued an announcement declaring Tonks' offer for Cartwright unconditional as to \$2.3 per share acceptance.

Mr William Stubbs, QC, for Cartwright, told Mr Justice

\_\_\_\_\_

Baristord Grp .....76a-7n

GOLD	
London fixing:	
am \$323.00pm-\$326.50	
close \$328.00-\$328.50	
New York:	
Comex (latest) \$327.55	
Deimar Grp	33p-3p
Cowan de Groot	33p-3p
Cifer	11p-1p
Buttough	215p-18p
Neepsend	18p-1 1/2p
Viewplan	86p-7p
Killinghall Rub	1350p-100p

## CURRENCIES

London:

\$1.4287 (+0.0215)  
DM 4.0283 (-0.0056)  
SwFr 3.2671 (-0.0250)  
FFr 12.2497 (-0.0284)  
Yen 338.53 (+1.84)  
Index: 84.7 (+0.5)

New York:

\$1.4285  
DM 2.8227  
Index: 136.8 (-1.9)  
CU \$0.556008  
DR \$0.729346

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## INTEREST RATES

London:

Bank Base: 11½%  
Month Interbank 11% - 11½%  
Month eligible bills  
Lying rate 10½% - 10¾%  
S

Time Rate 9.50%  
Federal Funds 7½%  
Month Treasury Bills 7.27 - 7.25%  
Long bond yield 103½ - 103¾%

long-term field study.

(1000 US Dollars)	1983	1982
Premiums written	1,380,316	1,177,553
Premiums ceded	-220,213	-204,633
Net premiums	1,160,103	972,919
Net investment income	270,486	212,253
Technical interest allocated to Life funds	-125,894	-96,506
Insurance underwriting result	-56,611	-74,744
Sundry income and expenditures	-8,735	6,860
Operating profit	79,756	47,860
Profit on sale of properties and securities	16,469	31,859
Unrealized capital losses on securities	-11,048	-4,692
Allocation to reserve for realized capital gains to be reinvested	-5,691	-17,764
Taxes	-20,470	-24,656
Total other items	-20,246	-15,258
Profit for the year	59,510	32,609
Per share (Dollars)		
Profit	0.476	0.266
Dividend	0.258	0.106
Pay-out ratio (per cent)	54	64

All of the above-listed figures have been converted at the rate of exchange of Lare 1.935.87 to the US Dollar.

- Gross premiums written by the Company totalled \$ 1,380.3 m of which \$ 388.3 m for Life and \$ 992 m for Non Life.
- Total investments reached \$ 3,057.4 m showing a growth of 18.1%.
- Net investment income totalled \$ 271 m showing a growth of 27.7%. The average yield has grown to 9.6%. Realized capital gains generated from the sale of securities amounted to \$ 11.3 m and from the sale of properties to \$ 5.7 m.
- The year's profit, showing a growth of 82.5% over the previous year, amounted to \$ 59.5 m of which \$ 40.7 m for Life and \$ 18.8 m for Non Life.
- \$ 21.4 m from the year's profit were allocated to the -special reserve set up also for the purchase of own shares-.
- The accounts include \$ 38.9 m allocated to reserves and arising from: revaluations \$ 18.5 m, exchange adjustments \$ 14.7 m and property sales profit \$ 5.7 m.
- The shareholders' surplus including the year's profit reached \$ 554.6 m showing an increase of \$ 72 m over the previous year.
- The dividend amounts to \$ 0.258 per share, showing an increase of 53.8% over 1983.







## STOCK MARKET REPORT

## Allied-Lyons shares gain as Australians build 3.84% stake

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Allied-Lyons, the food and drink group, gained 7p to 225p at one time yesterday after Wood, Mackenzie and Co., the broker, suggested that Elders, the ambitious Australian conglomerate, could now have as much as 3.84 per cent of the capital.

The Australian investment has cost about £50 million. Elders has been steadily building an Allied stake. It was Wood Mackenzie which disclosed this month that the Australian group, which owns the largest "Down Under" brewery, had acquired 2.44 per cent.

The growing Australian influence at the Double Diamond and Skol group is intriguing the City.

Allied owns nearly 25 per

cent of Castlemeane Tooheys, Australia's second largest brewery, and it could be that Elders wants to put pressure on the British group to prevent it accepting a bid for Castlemeane from Bond Corporation, another Australian conglomerate with brewing interests.

But there is growing speculation that Elders, which has been warned off Castlemeane by the Australian authorities, will bid for Allied. The British group would cost around £2,000 million - and Elders might need more than a little help.

Allied was not the only blue chip in form. The expected interest rate cuts, gave the market a firm start to the account. Sterling's continued firmness, although not helpful to international stocks, is already prompting thoughts that the cut to 11.5 per cent - against 14 per cent in January - will quickly be followed by another half-point reduction.

The market would probably have been in even more outstanding form if rumours of a highly cautious Confederation

of British Industry survey had not started to circulate.

The CBI quarterly survey is due today and there are market fears that it might show the recovery is faltering.

Even so, the FT 30-share index closed 8.3 points higher at 932.4, it was perilously near the 900-point mark at lunchtime on Friday. The more broadly-based FT SE share index finished 9.2 points better at 1,248.9.

Banks, with their profit season today, were little changed. National Westminster Bank launches the profit activity and the market expects interim profits of about £385 million (against £288 million).

Properties, building and stores were among those reaping the benefits of lower interest rates but, international shares were often uncertain. Imperial Chemical Industries, reflecting continuing disappointment over last week's interim figures and sterling's strength, eased 7p to 662p, a 1985 low.

Oils were firm. Britoil edged ahead 2p to 208p. The Government is expected to announce today the underwriting and price for the sale of its 49 per cent shareholding. It is thought that the sale price will be around 185p, payable in two instalments.

Engineering stocks were firm. Guest Keen and Nettlefold advanced 7p to 210p following the sale of seven subsidiaries to F. H. Tompkins. Glywood, with interim figures due on Monday, moved ahead 9p to 190p. TI Group rose 2p to 337p on the Evered (up 7p to 253p) interest.

Garage shares got a boost from the BSC International bid for Adams and Gibbon, which has just fought off an offer from Keep Trust. Adams shares jumped 54p to 290p.

Among hoteliers, Trusthouse Forte shares rose 3p to 127p when Laurie, Milbank, the broker, changed its mind about prospects there. Having met the

company last week, the City firm now regards THF as a "hold", rather than a "sell".

Food retailers and manufacturers were in the limelight as bank lending cost changes brought expectations of higher consumer spending. There were rises of several pence for the leading chains, with Argyl Group up 7p to 303p, Dec Corporation up 10p to 263p, J. Sainsbury up 4p to 320p and Tesco 10p better at 263p.

Fitch Lovell, the food processor and distributor, stood out in its sector, rising 7p to 203p. Wood Mackenzie is leading the buying on optimism about current and future trading.

At this price the stockbroker's forecasts suggest a type of around 10 for 1985-86, falling to under 9 the following year. Wm says recently initiated rationalization plans and a continuing acquisition programme are part of Fitch's strength.

The USM newcomers Yellowhammer and Lewmar received a quiet welcome, as market interest focussed on the main market. Yellowhammer, the advertising and marketing group which made a name for itself on work for Barclays Bank, British Telecom and anti-drug abuse campaigns, traded at 118p, 8p ahead of its placing price.

Lewmar, which designs and makes equipment for yachts, was priced at 108p. That is 3p below its placing price, and a disappointment for Phillips & Drew, the issuing broker. Investors appear chary of the shares because of the company's high level of earnings from abroad - a disadvantage with Sterling showing such strength.

CAP Group, the computer software house which begins share dealings on the main list tomorrow, looks set for a useful premium over the offer for sale price of 120p. The price was pitched low because of the weak

Burton shares gained 6p to 444p alongside the move in its target's price, and the generally upward trend for all retailers. Dunhill Holdings, now regarded as a luxury goods group, was 7p better at 315p and Rainers, the jeweller, kept up its good run with another 1p rise to 97p.

Sear Holdings prospered, despite recent worrying comment on the shoe trade, the shares rising 3p to 96½p. Woolworth Holdings, where market men have heard tales of expansion in the direction of Harris Queensway, continued to gain, up 13p to 453p on the back of a recommendation from analysts.

Arthur Bell and Sons shaded to 233p - only 8p above the Guinness cash alternative. Guinness was 1p lower at 243p.

Latest takeover whisper on the normally gossipy drinks pitch is Greene, King and Sons, the East Anglian group. The shares have been firm since rather unremarkable profits this month. The shares rose 4p to 180p.

Leading equity options had a quiet time, and there were a few significant price changes

## Traded option highlights

Traded options business reflected the preoccupations of the main stock market. As interest rate hopes look like pushing market indices back towards best levels and putting some glitter back on gilts, there were only two options in which investors showed significant interest.

The stock market index contract registered 1,667 trades out of the day's total of 8,301, while the short-dated gilts option reached 962 contracts traded. That is a high total for the gilt, where each contract represents £50,000 worth of stock.

Leading equity options had a quiet time, and there were a few significant price changes

## COMPANY NEWS

## IN BRIEF

● **MERRYDOWN WINE:** The company has proposed a 1-for-8 capitalization. It has declared a final dividend of 5p making 6p (same) for the year to March 31. With figures in 2000, group turnover was 8,809 (£8,154), profit attributable 704 (£602) after all charges including tax 559 (£335). Earnings per share were 24.13p (21.11p - adjusted). The reintroduction of vintage cider he can report pretax profits up 34.8 per cent. The increase in turnover was, however, limited to 8 per cent.

● **SUEBE:** The Trade Secretary has decided not to refer the proposed acquisition by SUEBE of Compair to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The acquisition has been completed for a consideration of £58 million.

● **NORCROS:** The chairman, the Kenneth Roberts, told shareholders at the annual meeting that for the first three months of the current year - of which one month includes UBM figures - the combined results of the new Norcross compare positively with those for the same period last year. JBM is being assimilated into Norcross.

● **BEECHAM GROUP:** Beecham Pharmaceuticals has received official notification of the reimbursement price for Augmentin under the Japanese national health insurance system. The way is now clear for the launch next month of the product in the Japanese market which is worth over £1 billion.

● **ANTROPAGASTA HOLDINGS:** The group's subsidiary, Andes Trust, has agreed to acquire from Thomson-CSF its 25 per cent holding in Transradio Chile for an undisclosed amount representing 50 per cent of the net assets of Antopagasta as at December 31 last.

● **ANDRE DE BRETT:** The company is missing the dividend for the year to March 31 (interim 1p). With figures in 2000, turnover was 2,407 (£3,816), operating profit 196 (£10), and pretax profit 38 (£30 loss). Earnings per share were 0.09p (0.21p).

● **ARI:** The company, in partnership with Sons of Gawlis, has entered into a joint venture with Southern Gold Mining Development, a Malaysian corporation, to bring the Sabanian gold mine into production in Sarawak.

● **BBAs:** The company's offer for Systent has become unconditional in all respects following BBA's extraordinary general meeting. Acceptances have been received in respect of 94.76 per cent of Systent's shares. BBA intends to acquire compulsorily the outstanding Systent shares.

● **EQUITY FINANCE TRUST HOLDINGS:** A final dividend of 1.31p making 1.31p (same) has been declared for the year to March 31, payable on August 27. With figures in 2000, group income was 1,516 (£1,690), operating profit 524 (£705), pretax profit 409 (£424) and earnings per ordinary (restricted voting) share 2.22p (£1.89p).

● **EWART NEW NORTHERN:** The company has declared a final dividend of 4p making 6p (4p) for the year to April 30. Pretax profit was up to £103,551 (£90,263) with tax at £19,855 (£9,645) and earnings per ordinary (restricted voting) share 2.22p (£2.00p). Earnings per share rose to 10.06p (£3.17p).

## TEMPUS

## US bond markets hit by bout of inflation jitters

Yet another bad trading session looked imminent for United States bonds yesterday as prices traded some ½ point down at the opening. Despite the scale of the recent sell-off - bond yields are now about a third off their recent peak - the market still has more than its fair share of worries to digest. Not surprisingly, bonds have fallen through the short-term resistance points on the charts.

Among immediate preoccupations the key is the US Treasury refinancing package, to be revealed tomorrow. The quarterly refunding operation is expected to total \$25 billion (£15.4 billion) of three-year, ten-year, and 30-year securities. Last August's refunding was worth just under \$17 billion, and the scale of the increase in the package is bound to focus attention on Congress's failure to agree major budget deficit-cutting actions.

The more fact that the foreigner is less likely to be a willing buyer of the new bonds on offer at the forthcoming auction seems bound to push short-term bond yields higher. Domestic lenders, with no foreign exchange yield pick-up for protection, are likely to insist on finer lending terms.

More troubles loom for bond holders further out in the maturity range. Compounded annual growth rates in the US monetary aggregates look quite impressive. Adjusted monetary base has seen an acceleration from 8.1 per cent to around 13.5 per cent. The comparable expansion rate for SM1 has moved ahead from a low point in March of 12 per cent annualized to close on 19 per cent. The growth rate in total checkable deposits was over 20 per cent in mid-July.

These figures give an impression of just how accommodating the Federal Reserve Board has been recently. By the fourth quarter of 1985, some traders claim that the annualized growth rate in US real GNP could be up to around 6 per cent. However, US corporations show little sign of responding to the stimulus provided by the Fed, at least in their demand for bank credit.

Business loans have been fairly static at around \$253 billion, and the compound annual growth rates are declining. Against this background, the last resort for the Fed chair-

man, Paul Volcker, must be a tighter monetary policy. Yet if the strength of final demand is anything to go by - and June merchandise figures, as a proxy, are expected to show a deficit of \$12½ billion - then the Federal Reserve Board may be obliged to push rates higher, if only to support the dollar. A steeper yield towards the year-end looks to be one result of the current policy confusion.

## Norton Opax

Norton Opax has been told it cannot sell lottery tickets to the United States. They fall under the category of prohibited imports. The chief executive, Mr Richard Hanwell thinks it is because the Leeds-based company is more efficient and would under-cut American printers.

But with 35 other countries happy to give the company their business he is not too worried. Lottery tickets, with printing of cheques, computer stationery, and bar codes, provide the powerhouse for the group's progress.

Pretax profits for the year just ended rose from £1.3 million to £2.2 million. The new acquisition Sir Joseph Causton - which provides a snug fit in the printing and publishing areas - contributed eight weeks trading - but the real benefit, after minor surgery, should be felt in the present year when brokers' estimates of a total of £4.2 million are unlikely to be disappointed.

The new-look Norton Opax should see the security printing side - which takes in the lottery business - accounting for about 30 per cent of turnover. Specialist printing is likely to account for 37 per cent of turnover with rationalization likely to further improve profit margins. This will leave publishing, chipping in about 13 per cent of turnover, distribution and retail 15 per cent, and packaging 5 per cent.

Norton Opax intends to steer clear of areas such as sheet publishing, bank note printing, and markets which look over-populated with competition.

Nevertheless, the competition even in basic businesses is still thick on the ground, such as Bemrose Corporation, Mr Robert Maxwell, and its management systems.

one-time bid, target John Waddington. But the shares, sheltering at 105p from a year's high of 130p, seem to have absorbed downside risk.

## F H Tompkins

Mr Greg Hutchins has shown a talent for finding cheap companies to buy since he became chief executive at F H Tompkins. His training at Hanson Trust has undoubtedly helped him.

Yesterday's revised deal with Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds is a good example of his bargaining skills. Tompkins is paying six times earnings for eight GKN companies which together have a presentable record and even make 10 per cent on sales, only a point less than Tompkins already achieves.

That multiple is based on a £14 million purchase price, payable in cash and shares, though £2.55 million is not due until 1987. Profits last year were £3.25 million.

With Tompkins's shares trading at 196p or 20 times earnings the acquisition presents no risk of dilution. It also offers interesting expansion opportunities as the eight GKN companies take Tompkins into new areas such as safety shoe manufacturing. They also take the company into the US for the first time.

The GKN deal is still not as attractive as Mr Hutchins's first. Little more than a year ago Tompkins paid £2.2 million for Ferraris, a motor component distributor. This company probably contributed £900,000 or so before interest to the latest results, implying a multiple of only four.

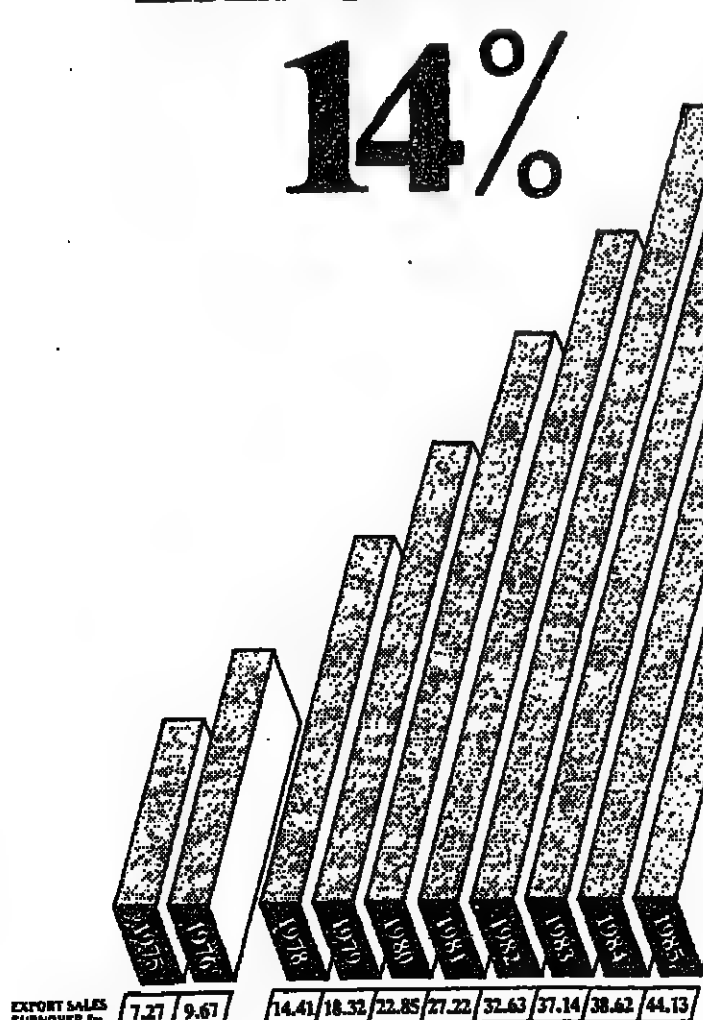
In-between Tompkins spent £4 million on Hayters though that seems to have been less of a bargain.

Mr Hutchins does not only rely on acquisitions as yesterday's figures demonstrate. Profits rose from £2.37 million to £3.52 million before tax thanks to advances by the original fastener distribution businesses as well as the contribution from Ferraris.

The GKN deal adds more than 1,000 to Tompkins's workforce of 800, and nearly doubles its turnover. To justify its current rating and acquisition power, Tompkins will, have to prove these changes do not strain the management systems.

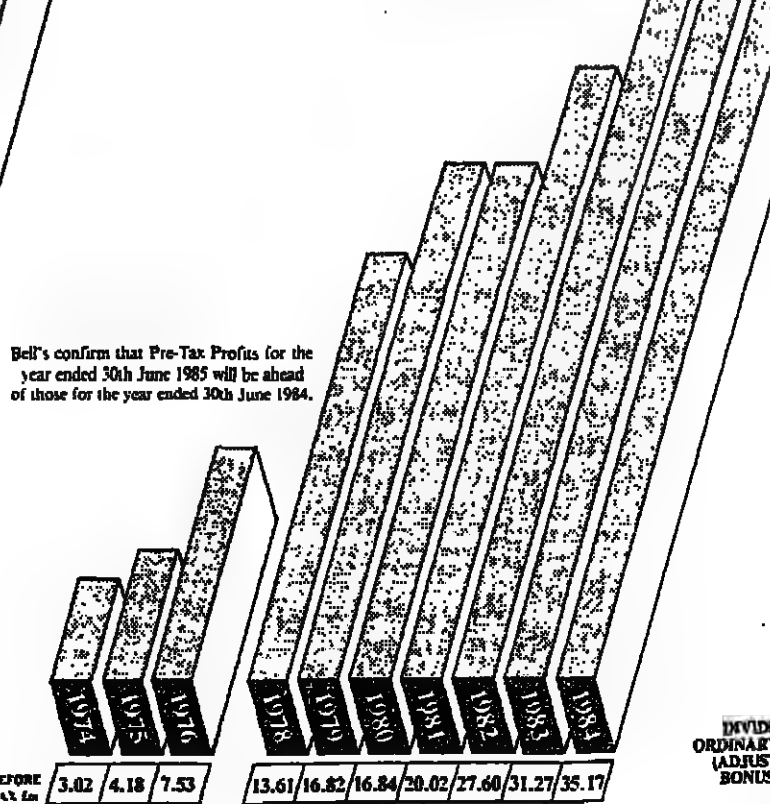
## BELL'S CONTINUE TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS

## 1985 EXPORTS UP 14%



Note: Years 1975 and 1976 are the twelve month periods to 31st December. Years 1978 onwards are the twelve months period to 30th June.

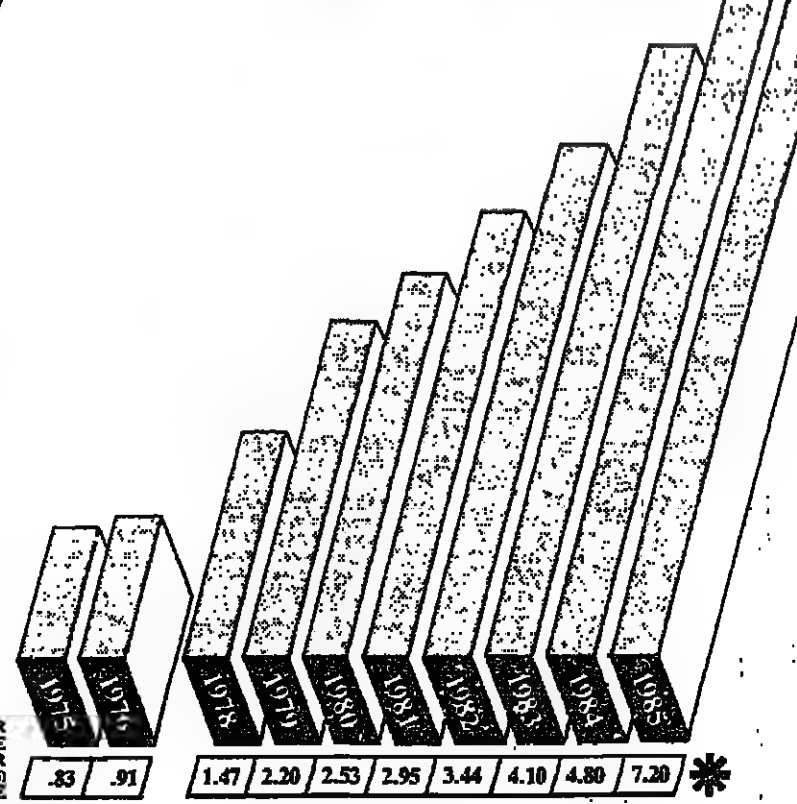
## BELL'S ESTIMATE ANOTHER YEAR OF RECORD PRE-TAX PROFITS IN 1985



Bell's confirm that Pre-Tax Profits for the year ended 30th June 1985 will be ahead of those for the year ended 30th June 1984.

Note: Years 1975 and 1976 are the twelve month periods to 31st December. Years 1978 onwards are the twelve months period to 30th June.

## \*BELL'S FORECAST DIVIDENDS PER SHARE IN THE ORDER OF 50% MORE THAN 1984



Note: Years 1975 and 1976 are the twelve month periods to 31st December. Years 1978 onwards are the twelve months period to 30th June.

## STAY WITH THE WINNING TEAM - REJECT THE GUINNESS BID

This advertisement is published by Arthur Bell & Sons plc whose directors (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.



## Base Rate

Williams & Glyn's Bank announces that with effect from 30th July 1985 its Base Rate for advances is reduced from 12% to 11½% per annum.



**Williams & Glyn's Bank plc**

A member of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc



**Courtts & Co.**

Courtts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is reduced from 12.00% to 11.50% per annum with effect from the 30th July, 1985 until further notice.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate linked to Courtts Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

The Deposit Rates on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal are as follows:-

8.00% per annum Gross\*  
6.00% per annum Net (the Gross Equivalent of which is 8.57% per annum to a basic rate tax payer).

Rates are subject to variation and interest is paid half-yearly in June and December.

\*Not ordinarily available to individuals who are U.K. residents  
440 Strand, London, WC2R 0QS



**National Westminster Bank PLC**

NatWest announces that with effect from Tuesday, 30th July, 1985, its Base Rate is decreased from 12.00% to 11.50% per annum.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to NatWest Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP



## Base Rate

With effect from the close of business on 29th July 1985 and until further notice TSB Base Rate will be 11.5% p.a.

Trustee Savings Banks  
Central Board,  
PO Box 33, 25 Milk Street,  
London EC2V 8LU.

By Alison Eadie

Tomorrow is the extended solvency deadline for problem syndicates at Lloyd's insurance market, the date by which all names who wish to continue as members of Lloyd's must show they have the means to meet their underwriting obligations. In the case of the problem syndicates - the former PCW syndicates and syndicate 895 - those obligations mean thumping great losses.

By the middle of last week most names had shown the necessary means, but that was before PCW names received a letter from Sir Ian Morrow, chairman of the new agency set up by Lloyd's to run off the loss-making syndicates, explaining that the accounting base would probably be changed.

The change will mean 1984's discounted losses of £62 million, which names must show they can meet in this year's solvency test, will rise to the non-discounted figure of £130 million or possibly much more next. Many names, even if they wanted to continue as members of Lloyd's, would be hard pushed to show they had the assets to meet losses of such staggering proportions.

What is more, there are many within Lloyd's who do not see why they should show they are good for such losses. The PCW affair has split the market on how the unfortunate names, who have been victims of fraud as well as appalling underwriting, should be treated. It has also raised fundamental questions about the structure of Lloyd's, particularly about the long-term viability of unlimited liability and the adequacy of the central fund, a policy holders' protection fund.

The market rescue school of thought believes in some form



Asbestos danger: special equipment used by the GLC to clear contaminated sites. Asbestos is responsible for a mass of insurance claims adding to the strain on Lloyd's

of bail-out for the names. This could either involve non-PCW names shouldering some of the losses, as they did in the Sasse affair of the late 1970s, or could mean the big brokers involved, and possibly Lloyd's itself, guaranteeing a letter of credit to cover the losses, with PCW names paying bona fide claims as they fall due. Claims are running at £7 million to £8 million a year and there is enough cash in the syndicates' kitty to meet them for the next three years.

A market rescue compromise the principles of unlimited liability and individual trading, but the harshness of Lloyd's system, which requires names to face financial ruin for estimated future losses,

which may or may not materialize, raises questions as to how defensible those principles are.

The PCW affair is not a straightforward case, because of the past misappropriation of nearly £40 million of names' money. There would be considerably less call, if any, for a market rescue if the PCW losses were simply the result of poor underwriting judgment. However, the PCW affair has concentrated minds on the fundamental structure of the market and caused several committed Lloyd's supporters to be uneasy about the future.

The continued PCW fall-out coincides with the ending of the consultative period on a Lloyd's green paper on membership requirements. Lloyd's is now

mulled over the 33 replies it has had, some of which are far more radical than the document upon which they were commenting. The working party chaired by Mr Pat Bird, which drew up the consultative document, did not challenge the basic tenets of Lloyd's. It just suggested adjustments to the means test, deposit composition and membership application procedure.

However, some feel a thorough reassessment is needed. One of the reasons for the unease is the threat of long tail business - insurance business where there is a very long lag between the policy being written and the claim coming in. Asbestos claims are typical examples and are plaguing the Lloyd's market at the moment.

It is American long tail business which has hit the PCW syndicates with a vengeance and, in view of the awards being made in American courts for industrial injury, medical and other professional malpractice and environmental damage, the situation can only worsen. Mr Peter Miller, chairman of Lloyd's, said in a recent speech to insurance brokers in America: "We insurers have little faith that we shall receive justice at the hands of the American legal system."

Many insurers feel this type of business, once considered to be highly profitable, is now virtually unwritable. But Lloyd's syndicates have written a good chunk of it and claims will continue to come in for the next 15 to 20 years at least, putting enormous strain on the unlimited liability of Lloyd's members. There is a fear that Lloyd's syndicates are grossly under-reserved for these wildly escalating claims.

Long tail business also makes a nonsense of Lloyd's three-year accounting rule and creates a situation of gross overwriting, some market men believe. Each name at Lloyd's is limited in the

amount of insurance he can write by how much wealth he shows. If he shows the minimum £100,000 he can write £200,000 worth of business. At the end of three years a syndicate's accounts are closed by reinsurance. The reinsurance-to-close premium is then paid back into the syndicate, unless another syndicate takes it over. The reinsurance-to-close premium is not assessed as part of a name's premium capacity - the amount of business he can write - because the business it represents is considered to have been fully reserved. All well and good if the reserves are adequate, but with reinsurance to close after three years, when long tail business is often longer than life business, the reserves could be found to be hopelessly

business this year. Some form of investor protection fund to cover names is being mooted.

Lloyd's has tended to use its unique basis of unlimited liability as a selling point to win policy-holders. While it is undoubtedly attractive to policy-holders, it holds increasingly fewer attractions for names, the investors who underpin the whole insurance market. Lloyd's needs its names, particularly with insurance capacity coming back to London and at better rates, and there is a feeling that their interests should be placed a little higher up the pecking order.

Because most names are privileged and wealthy, and because membership of Lloyd's confers additional tax perks and financial benefits, there has perhaps not been great sympathy for them when they occasionally lose money.

The sight of Mr Bryan Gould, Labour spokesman for trade, championing the cause of PCW names in Parliament does seem slightly incongruous.

However, Lloyd's is an important part of Britain's balance of payments, contributing nearly £1 billion to invisible earnings in 1983. It is therefore crucial that it continue to attract both investors and policy holders. New names are being drawn increasingly from abroad, particularly America, where the tendency to reach for one's lawyer over anything poses the danger of Lloyd's managing agents being sued for incompetence rather than names paying up insurance losses. A form of limited liability would go some way to resolving these problems and also open the door to corporate membership of Lloyd's.

Suggestions of this nature are now being studied by Lloyd's, as it peruses the replies to the Bird consultative document. It will be interesting to see how many of them are taken on board.

## The principle of unlimited liability is under strain from 'long tail' business

### APPOINTMENTS

#### Bestobell chairman

Bestobell: Mr David Ingman, former group director of ICI's petrochemicals and plastics division, is to succeed Mr A B (Sandy) Marshall when he retires as chairman in September. Mr Ingman joins the board with effect from Thursday.

Whitbread Trading: Mr Bernard King has been appointed managing director.

Leslie & Godwin (Energy Resources): Mr M W Beach and Mr N D P Wood have been made directors.

Taylor Woodrow: Mr R G (Bob) Smith has joined the board.

Briannia Building Society: Mr Peter Blond is appointed to the board with effect from Thursday.

Legal & General: Mr David Plastow has been made a non-executive director.

Hanson Transport: Mr Kiehl Davie has become managing director.

Unipart Group: Mr John Connell has been made a non-executive director.

Devitt Group: Mr A M Richardson is to be a director of Devitt (North America); Mr T Primrose is to be a director of Devitt Aviation and Mr A L Gossage and Mr G R Leggett are to be assistant directors of Devitt (Energy).

Matthew Clark & Sons: Mr Robin Walters has been appointed managing director. He will remain as group marketing director. Mr Ivor Thomas has been appointed finance director.

N. M. Rothschild & Sons: Mr Georges Karlweis has been elected a non-executive director.

Credit & Commerce Life Assurance: Mr Derek Jones has been made sales director, Mr Ray Edwards assistant director and Mr Derek Jones sales director.

STC: Mr Jeremy Strachan has been appointed director, legal affairs.

Welsh Consumer Council: Mrs L. Rhianon Bevan becomes chairman from September 1. She also becomes a member of the National Consumer Council.

Mr Ian James Fraser CBE, MC, Joint Chairman of Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited, writes to make it clear that he is not the Mr Ian Fraser who was formerly a Director of Johnson Matthey Bankers Limited.

### Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	11½%
Adam & Company	12%
Barclays	12%
BCCI	12%
Citibank Savings	11½%
Consolidated Creds	12½%
Continental Trust	12%
Co-operative Bank	12%
C. Hoare & Co	12%
Lloyds Bank	11½%
Midland Bank	11½%
Nat Westminster	11½%
TSB	11½%
Williams & Glyn's	11½%
Citibank NA	11½%

1 Mortgage Base Rate.

# There are nearly 6,000 places where you can share in the Britoil offer.

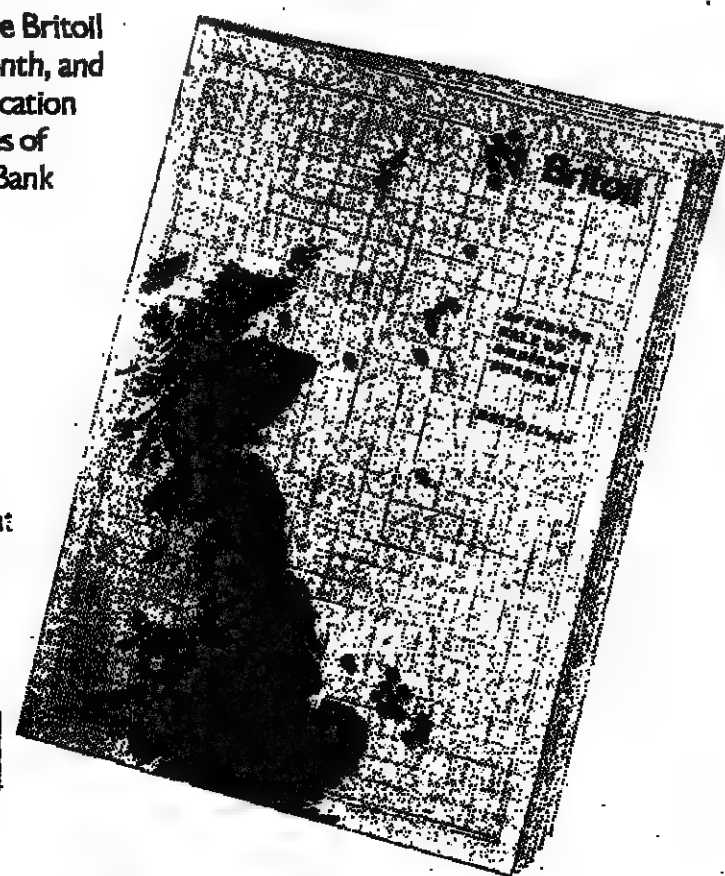
Subject to market conditions, the Britoil offer is planned for the end of this month, and the Offer for Sale document and application form will be available from all branches of National Westminster Bank, Barclays Bank and the Bank of Scotland.

They will also be published in national newspapers.

There will then be just 7 days in which to complete and return an application form before the Offer closes.

The minimum amount you need now for payment of the first instalment is £200. Three months later, payment of the second and final instalment will be due.

**Britoil**



SOON, THE REMAINING 49% OF BRITOIIL SHARES ARE TO BE OFFERED FOR SALE.

Issued by Lazard Brothers & Co., Limited on behalf of H.M. Government.

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## Racal profits hitch

By Jeremy Warner

Sir Ernest Harrison, chairman of Racal Electronics, yesterday gave the reasons for his recent warning that results for the first half of this year would show a fall in profits. Operating losses after interest charges of Racal-Vodafone, the group's mobile and portable telephone service, will total £11 million this year against £11 million last time, Sir Ernest forecast in the company's report

and accounts. Increased interest charges generally, and a slow start to orders in the United States, were also contributing factors. However, he also forecast that the cellular radio operation would be at break-even by the last quarter, and that for 1986-87 there would be an operating profit of £5 million. Racal has invested about £90 million in Racal-Vodafone.

## Grindlays Bank p.l.c. Interest Rates

Grindlays Bank p.l.c. announces that its base rate for lending will change from 12% to 11½% with effect from 29th July 1985



Grindlays Bank p.l.c.

Head Office: Grindlays Bank plc, Minerva House, Montague Close, London SE1 9DH.

## IWC urges big investment to aid transport of grain

COMMODITIES REVIEW

In an extraordinary act of generosity the Live Aid beano demonstrated that not everything about tin-pan alley is meretricious. Nowhere was this more evident than in the common-sense way in which the £50 million raised will be spent.

As *The Times* has been reporting, especially from Sudan, for most of the year, the key problem facing relief agencies in the Sahel is transport. A good deal of Live Aid's funds will go towards relieving the grain shipment bottlenecks.

But a recent paper from the secretariat of the International Wheat Council, a body which monitors the world grain business under an international agreement, shows the immensity of the long-term problem of resolving the grain transport difficulties of developing countries.

It is one of the less glamorous aspects of the commodities trade, to which far more attention should be given. The IWC paper is a model of official report: sensible, succinct and effective. The basic facts are compelling. During the decade to July 1982/June 1983, grain imports (wheat, coarse grains and rice) by developing countries grew from 45 million tonnes to 93 million tonnes, or from 34 per cent to 48 per cent of the world grain trade. Most importantly, the value of developing countries' grain imports soared from \$3.7 billion to \$20.3 billion (£14.5 billion).

In the 1950s the developing countries imported 15 million tonnes of grains a year on average, and they were net exporters of rice and coarse grains. But more recent figures suggest that their grain imports are well over 100 million tonnes, and still expanding. An earlier IWC paper, *Long Term Grain Outlook*, concluded that total grain consumption could double between now and the end of the century. Overall, grain consumption by developing countries has increased by 40 per cent in each decade since 1950.

The reasons for the explosion in consumption are manifold. Bigger populations are obviously the main cause, but they are by no means the only one. Urbanization has concentrated populations. In Africa, town dwellers accounted for only 15 per cent of the population in 1950; by the year 2000 more than 50 per cent could live in town.

Domestic food production and rickety local transport systems have not kept pace with the move to the towns. More animals are grain-fed, and the authorities often subsidize food to keep the restive urban mobs quiet. Whatever the reason - and many of these trends are unlikely to be reversed soon - the outcome is that port and

transport facilities are overwhelmed by the weight of grains to be shifted.

The new paper highlights many bitter ironies. Economies of scale in the shipping business have meant steadily bigger ships. More than half of dry bulk carriers are over 40,000 tonnes, and some are over 100,000 tonnes. But only a handful of ports in developing countries can handle ships of 50,000 tonnes or more.

At the same time, the trend in grain-handling, as in freight generally, has been towards far greater mechanization, containerization and bulk inland storage and transport. But this equipment, such as silos, can be expensive, and the advantage of developing countries is usually cheap labour.

The result is that smaller ships, slower handling and losses of grain cost developing countries dear. A country importing 1 million tonnes of grain a year (the Philippines, for example) in ships of 20,000 tonnes, assuming a freight cost of \$25 a tonne, would incur an annual bill of \$25 million, or \$3.5 million and \$6.8 million more than if its ports could take 50,000-tonne ships.

Another problem is demurrage, the price paid to the shipowner for using the ship longer than had been contracted. Demurrage usually arises when ports are congested. The cost can be heavy.

Although ports are a serious problem, the big delays are inland. The IWC paper says: "deficiencies in developing countries' transport systems lie behind many of their grain-handling problems".

The recent experience of Chad, Sudan and Ethiopia has sadly borne out the truth of the observation. Although improved machinery and management can do much in the short term to unblock ports, transport systems in big countries such as Sudan require heavy investment over a long period.

How these rail, road and water transport systems are to be financed is another question. The IWC implies that donor governments and international agencies such as the World Bank will have to put up a lot of the money.

Some kinds of transport, for example trucks, may be financed more easily by local entrepreneurs and merchants. But the warning is clear: "Unless action is taken quickly, an increasing number of developing countries may be quite unable to handle the imports they desperately need to sustain their rapidly-growing populations."

*"Grain Handling and Transportation Facilities in Developing Countries", International Wheat Council, Secretariat Paper No 15.*

Michael Prest

## Law Report July 30 1985

### Limit to hearsay rule exception

Regina v Blastland

Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman

[Speeches said July 25]

The exception to the hearsay rule that permitted a statement made to a witness by a third party to be put in evidence to prove the state of mind of the person to whom it was made applied only where the state of mind was directly in issue at the trial or of direct and immediate relevance to an issue at the trial.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by Douglas Blastland from the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice O'Connor, Mr Justice Macpherson and Mr Justice Evans) (*The Times*, January 22, 1985), who dismissed his appeal against convictions by majority verdicts of 11 to one at Lincoln Crown Court (Mr Justice Bush and a jury) on October 14, 1983, of buggery and murder.

The point of law certified by the Court of Appeal on which the House of Lords gave the appellant leave to appeal was:

"Whether evidence of words spoken by a third party who is not called as a witness is hearsay evidence if it is advanced as evidence of the fact that the words were spoken and so as to indicate the state of knowledge of the person speaking the words of the evidence to be drawn from such words is that the person speaking them is or may be guilty of the offence with which the defendant is charged."

Mr Lord Justice QC and Mr Peter Morrell for the appellant; Douglas Draycott, QC and Mr Patrick Eccles for the Crown.

LORD BRIDGE said that on Friday morning, December 10, 1982, the body of a boy aged 12, Karl Fletcher, had been found. He had been forcibly bugged and strangled with a scarf. His death had occurred on the Thursday evening.

The appellant's own evidence had been that he admitted meeting the deceased boy at some time between 6 and 7 pm on the Thursday not far from where the body was found. He had engaged in homosexual activity with the boy, not amounting to buggery, to which, according to the appellant, the boy had consented for payment.

The appellant had then seen another man nearby who, inferentially, could have seen what had happened. Fearing that he had been observed committing a serious offence, he had panicked and run away. He had given a description of the other man corresponding closely to a man named Mark.

If the appellant's account was true, the boy must have been bugged and murdered by another man after his encounter with the appellant. A central feature of his defence at the trial had been to invite the jury to infer that that other man had been Mark.

Evidence of an injury to Mark's penis, formal admissions by the prosecution showing Mark to have been known to engage in the past in homosexual activities with adults but not with children, and formal admissions and evidence relating to Mark's movements on the evening of the murder, had been put before the jury.

What the jury had not known was that in a series of interviews with the police Mark had successively made and withdrawn admissions of his own guilt of the offences in question. Their Lordships were not concerned with the investigators' reasons for concluding that those admissions had been untrue.

Applications by the appellant for the material in those interviews to be put before the jury, by calling a police officer or by calling Mark to give evidence and treating him as a hostile witness, had been refused by the judge. Mark had not given evidence at the trial.

The prosecution had very properly made available to the defence the statements of a number of witnesses to the effect that Mark had said to them, at times before the finding of Karl's body, that a young boy had been murdered.

The defence had wished to call those witnesses to elicit from them what Mark had said. The judge had ruled that that evidence, like that of what Mark had said to the police, would be hearsay and therefore inadmissible.

*Mirvis v DPP* ([1965] AC 1001) established that it was for the legislature, not the judiciary, to create new exceptions to the hearsay rule. To admit in criminal trials statements confessing to the crime for which the defendant was being tried made by third parties not called as witnesses (see *R v Turner* (Bristol) ([1973] 61 Cr App R 67)) would be to create a very significant and, many might think, a dangerous new exception.

However that might be, leave to appeal having been granted only on the point referred to above, counsel for the appellant had been constrained to present the appeal on the basis not only that what Mark had said to the police had been rightly excluded by the judge but also that, if Mark had said in terms to any of the witnesses to whom he had spoken about the murder that he had himself committed it, such evidence would equally have been inadmissible as hearsay.

The argument most attractively presented by Mr Judge might be summarised as follows. The authorities relating to the application of the hearsay rule contrasted two distinct situations.

In the first, evidence was sought to be adduced of a statement made to a witness in order to prove the truth of the facts stated. That was hearsay evidence and had to be excluded, unless it could be brought within one of the recognized exceptions to the hearsay rule.

In the second, evidence was sought to be adduced of a statement made to a witness in order to prove, not the truth of any facts stated, but the state of mind of the person to whom it had been made. That evidence was not within the hearsay rule at all; it was direct and primary evidence of the state of mind of the maker or recipient of the statement.

Applying that distinction to the statements in question in the present case led to the following conclusions. Knowledge was a state of mind. What Mark had said to the witnesses on the Thursday evening when Karl had been murdered and on the following morning was direct and primary evidence of his knowledge of the murder before the body had been found.

Accordingly, Mr Judge submitted, the evidence was direct and primary evidence of that which it was called to prove. It was not excluded by the hearsay rule and

should have been left to the jury, together with all the other evidence, for them to draw such inferences from it as they had seen fit.

His Lordship said that that argument appeared to proceed from its premises to its conclusion by a formidable chain of reasoning. Yet, if it was right, it did appear to lead to the very odd result that the inference that Mark might have himself committed the murder might be supported indirectly by what Mark had said, though if he had directly acknowledged guilt that would have been excluded.

In giving his ruling that the disputed evidence be not admitted, the judge had succinctly and graphically expressed the view in the following words:

"The real purpose and relevance of calling the evidence as to the state of mind is to say that in effect that was an implied admission of the knowledge of the crime, which is an implied admission of the crime itself, and that too I regard as hearsay evidence and inadmissible."

His Lordship preferred to approach the matter initially as one of principle. Hearsay evidence was not excluded because it had no logically probative value. Given that the subject-matter of the hearsay was a serious issue in the trial, it might clearly be potentially probative.

The rationale of excluding it as inadmissible, rooted as it was in the system of trial by jury, was a recognition of the great difficulty, even more acute for a juror than for a trained judicial mind, of assessing what, if any, weight could properly be given to a statement by a person whom the jury had not seen or heard and that had not been subject to any test of reliability by cross-examination.

As Lord Normand had put it, delivering the judgment of the Privy Council in *Queen v Gervin* ([1952] AC 480, 488): "The rule against admission of hearsay evidence is fundamental. It is not the best evidence and it is not delivered on oath. The truthfulness and accuracy of the person whose words are spoken by another witness cannot be tested by cross-examination and the light which his demeanour could throw on his testimony is lost."

The danger against which that fundamental rule provided a safeguard was that untested hearsay evidence would be treated as having a probative force that it did not deserve.

It was, of course, elementary that statements made to a witness by a third party were not excluded by the hearsay rule when they were put in evidence solely to prove the state of mind of the maker of the statement or of the person to whom it had been made. What a person said or heard said might well be the best and most direct evidence of that person's state of mind.

That principle could only apply, however, when the state of mind evidenced by the statement either was itself directly in issue at the trial or was of direct and immediate relevance to an issue that arose at the trial. It was at this point that the argument for the appellant broke down.

The issue at the trial of the appellant had been whether it was proved that the appellant had bugged and murdered Karl Fletcher. Mark's knowledge that Karl had been murdered had neither been itself in issue nor, *per se*, of any relevance to the issue.

What had been relevant had been not the fact of Mark's knowledge but how he had come by that knowledge. He might have done so in a number of ways, but the two most obvious possibilities were either that he had witnessed the commission of the murder by the appellant or that he had committed it himself.

The statements that it had been proved that Mark had made, indicating his knowledge of the murder, had provided no rational basis whatever on which the jury could have been invited to draw an inference as to the source of that knowledge. To have done so would have been mere speculation.

Thus, to have allowed that evidence of what Mark had said to be put before the jury as supporting the conclusion that he, rather than the appellant, might have been the murderer seemed to his Lordship, in the light of the principles on which the exclusion of hearsay depended, to be open to still graver objection than allowing evidence that he had directly admitted the crime.

If the latter was excluded as evidence to which no probative value could safely be attributed, the same objection applied *a fortiori* to the admission of the former.

His Lordship considered the authorities, including *Thomas v Donnell* (1838) 4 M. & W. 267, *Sutton v Sutton* (1842) 11 M. & W. 105, *Public Prosecutor v Duffin* (1956) 1 WLR 965, *Lloyd v Powell Duffryn Steam Coal Co Ltd* ([1914] AC 733), *Ratten v The Queen* ([1972] AC 378), *R v Moghal* ([1977] 65 Cr App R 504) and *R v Roberts* ([1984] 80 Cr App R 89), and concluded that they contained nothing to displace the opinion that he had expressed as a matter of principle. The evidence in question had rightly been excluded.

It would not be right, his Lordship said, to answer the certified question, drawn in such wide terms, by a simple negative. It would not be appropriate to go further, by way of generalization, than to say that the admissibility of a statement tendered in evidence as proof of the maker's knowledge or other state of mind had always to depend on the degree of relevance of the state of mind sought to be proved to the issue in relation to which the evidence was tendered.

Lord Fraser, Lord Edmund-Davies, Lord Brightman and Lord Templeman agreed.

Solicitors: Sharpe, Pritchard & Co. for Gilbert Blades, Lincoln; DPP.

### Risk to agent of giving credit

Trading & General Investment Corporation SA v Gault Armstrong & Kemble Ltd

Where an agent, authorized to receive payments from a third party on behalf of his principal, elected to extend credit to the third party rather than receive cash, he might be estopped from denying that he had received cash or might be treated as having received the money and lent it to the third party. Mr Justice Bingham so stated in the Queen's Bench Division on July 24 in giving judgment for the plaintiffs in the sum of US\$6,939.

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## Ignore the inadequate Burton bid

### Burton offers you -

- \* A price which ignores the fundamental strength and growth prospects of your company.
- \* A loss of dividend income.
- \* Vague promises about discredited design concepts costing hundreds of millions of pounds.
- \* An overstretched management without experience of multi-level stores.
- \* No experience in merchandise other than clothing.

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### Debenhams offers you -

- \* Rising profits, which have doubled in 3 years and are forecast to treble in 4 years.
- \* A growth in earnings per share that beats Burton hands down.
- \* A share price that is well supported by the profit and dividend forecasts for the current year.
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- \* Growth in sales and profits from both existing selling space and planned new stores.
- \* An experienced management team.

**Debenhams has promised, has delivered, and will deliver in the future.**

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*The New Specialists - above all*

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## COMPUTER APPOINTMENTS 01-837 1350

## PROFESSIONAL COMPUTER OPPORTUNITIES

**ICL PROFESSIONALS.**  
Company: Large financial institution with a wide variety of ICL mainframes and various minis/micros.  
Position: Programming, analysis and design on financial applications. Project Leader and Standard/Quality Control vacancies are available.  
Experience: Two years + on any ICL hardware for all positions. Analysts not necessarily from a programming background. Programmers with experience in any of the following - Cobol, Plan, Pascal, Project Leaders with proven management skills.  
General: Extremely well paid positions offering interesting and varied work. Career opportunities are well defined and training is second to none. Benefits include subsidised mortgage, profit share, non-contributory pension, Christmas bonus, free life insurance, low interest loans + s, club, relocation assistance.  
Ref TJ11379

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Company: Well established and successful consultancy specialising in recruitment in the computer industry.  
Position: Providing a full service to clients and applicants alike, including advertising, interviewing, on site liaison, consultancy.  
Experience: Either a background in Data Processing with a flair for sales, or alternatively sales experience in any field with a good track record.  
General: Good opportunity of moving into a professional sales environment where salary, car and progression are based purely on effort and results.  
Ref TB DP/IC

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Company: Progressive well respected systems house developing packages and providing complete bespoke systems.  
Position: Programmers and Analyst/Programmers to work on systems development (packages or bespoke) for IBM mainframe users utilising COBOL or PL1, 4th Generation Languages, CICS, IMS and Databases.  
Experience: Eighteen months IBM COBOL, PL1 (DOS or MVS) any experience of design, analysis, on-line database or 4th Generation Languages all useful but full training given.  
General: Excellent opportunity for career progression moving toward product consultant. Extensive training will be provided. Secure and well established organisation.  
Ref TS 11715

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Company: International systems house involved in development of IBM

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are of a banking, insurance and financial nature.

Experience: Eighteen months plus RPL II or III for Programmers and Analyst/

Programmers (user liaison and design, where applicable). Man/Project

Management of system 36/38 based projects for senior positions.

Knowledge of financial areas a plus, but not a prerequisite.

General: Some travel within the UK. Good opportunity for training. Excellent

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£22,000 + substantial benefits. Car at senior level.  
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C LONDON TO £215,000

PROGRAMMERS TO PROJECT

LEADERS

**DEC VAX ANALYST/PROGRAMMERS**  
Company: One of the world's largest systems consultancies showing consistent growth and offering stability and career opportunities in line with ability.  
Position: Programming and analysis in a full role from initial conception through all stages to implementation. Applications encompass maintaining commercial and financial areas.  
Experience: Four years in Data Processing, Cobol predominantly, mixture of both programming and analysis skills with recent exposure to DEC/VAX hardware.  
General: Position may suit candidates looking to broaden skills and horizons working both in-house and on client sites, therefore offering variety plus occasional travel. Benefits include: BUPA, bonus, free life insurance, car discount scheme, relocation.  
Ref TJ11818

**CONSULTANT SUPPORT ANALYSTS**  
Company: Manufacturer of fault tolerant systems with a world wide user base.  
Position: Analyst to provide pre/post sales support, design, systems sizing, general advice and consultancy for clients.  
Experience: Several years in computing, ideally having worked from Programmer through to Systems Analyst. Strong business/commercial awareness with knowledge of on-line transaction processing, system sizing and databases. Any hardware experience.  
General: A variety of work and opportunity for career progression. A company car is part of the package.  
Ref TS11170

**PROGRAMMERS TO PROJECT LEADERS**  
Company: International systems house involved in development of IBM System 36/38 packages.  
Position: Programmers, Analyst Programmers and Project Leaders, to provide an active part in package development with some client support. Applications are of a banking, insurance and financial nature.  
Experience: Eighteen months plus RPL II or III for Programmers and Analyst/Programmers (user liaison and design, where applicable). Man/Project Management of system 36/38 based projects for senior positions.  
Knowledge of financial areas a plus, but not a prerequisite.  
General: Some travel within the UK. Good opportunity for training. Excellent prospects for promotion. Remuneration package negotiable up to £22,000 + substantial benefits. Car at senior level.  
Ref TM11280

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provide an active part in package development with some client support. Applications

are of a banking, insurance and financial nature.

Experience: Eighteen months plus RPL II or III for Programmers and Analyst/

Programmers (user liaison and design, where applicable). Man/Project

Management of system 36/38 based projects for senior positions.

Knowledge of financial areas a plus, but not a prerequisite.

General: Some travel within the UK. Good opportunity for training. Excellent

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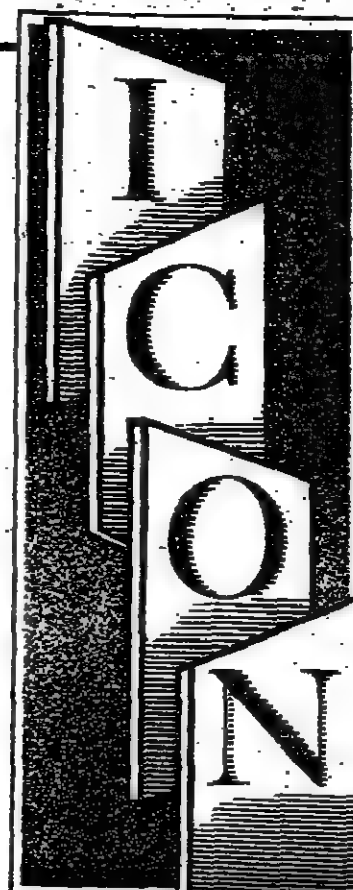
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## COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

## Low-key response in IBM case

By Jane Lawrence

The European Commission has given IBM a sparkling end of year report, despite continuing dissatisfaction in the market about the company's activities.

Colin Overbury, head of the competition division at the European Commission said: "IBM has implemented the undertaking and incorporated it into its business practices. We are satisfied that it has adhered to the terms of the agreement."

The goodwill statement summed up an agreement between the organizations last summer.

It followed a 10-year case to decide whether or not the world's largest computer company was abusing its dominant position in Europe.

The outcome was that the firm would have to be more open about releasing details of its products to competitors, so that they could develop compatible products if they wished.

That meant relevant details had to be released, if requested, 120 days after the announcement of a product in Europe.

In its current round-up one year later the Commission says it is satisfied with IBM's performance and adherence to the settlement.

There was no surprise since it would be uncharacteristic of IBM to step out of line once it had made an agreement.

But there was surprise at the low-key nature of the statement - particularly since the Commission had reacted sharply to reports only a few weeks before that part of the Commission was less than happy with IBM's behaviour, and which suggested that a second case might begin into alleged abuses of its position.

Mauro Caspari, the director general for competition, made it clear in letters and a statement to the press then that any hint of a second case was caused by a misunderstanding. But it appears that the Commission is split in its opinion of IBM.

Other bodies are also putting the pressure on for a second case. The European computer leasing organization Eclat is compiling evidence from its members with the view to making representations to the EEC and the Bundeskartellamt - the West German equivalent of the Office of Fair Trading.

To win a place in the potentially lucrative Mexican computer market, IBM has agreed to set up a semiconductor development centre for local industry, to buy a variety of high-technology components from Mexican companies and to produce software for Latin America in Mexico.

The details of the agreement emerged a day after Mexico said it would allow IBM to own 100 per cent of a Mexican subsidiary that will build personal computers in El Salto, near Guadalajara. Usually a majority Mexican ownership is required for such subsidiaries.

Analysts were surprised that Mexico extracted so many concessions from the computer giant, saying that the agreement demonstrated the importance that IBM attaches to the Mexican market.

Mexico, by dint of the requirements it imposed, effectively got control, even if IBM does own the plant, said C-Fred Bergsten, the director of the Institute for International Economics, a research organization in Washington. He noted, for example, that IBM was required under the agreement to export 90 per cent of the computers it makes in Mexico.

But IBM takes the long view, he said, and it understands the mobilism involved.

IBM's entry into Mexico comes as the company is negotiating to resume operations in another nation suddenly opening its markets to high-technology companies: India. Industry sources said IBM is seeking to start a software development unit in India. IBM pulled out of India in 1978 rather than cede ownership of 60 per cent of its subsidiary to the government.

## Wanted: A minister with IT

## THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone  
Technology Correspondent

The National Economic Development Office has highlighted the crisis several times. While the House of Lords and the TUC called for more co-ordination in May.

The sad reality is that there is no air of crisis in the industrial corridors of Whitehall and as little power and political influence. There is certainly nothing to indicate that the trade deficit in IT (information technology) - now £2,000 million and rising - will be reversed through an ingenious industrial strategy.

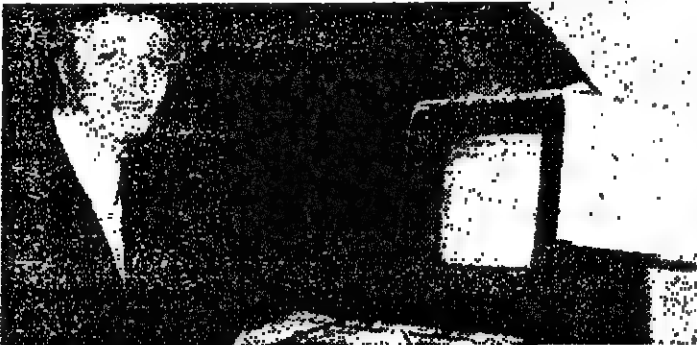
The Department of Trade and Industry's advisors must be frustrated. The work done by well-meaning, informed ministers like John Butcher is all for nothing unless there is a political commitment to enforce an IT policy that will ensure more of the population are taught technical skills and that the nation produces technical graduates. An example is the emerging cable and satellite TV industry. Advisors

at the DTI had pushed for a quick expansion of UK cable television as a catalyst for the growth of the British IT sector. The Home Office wanted to retain its traditional hold over broadcasting. The result was chaos and a government vacillating over what to do while emporing the bureaucratic in-fighting.

The Treasury mandarins, predictably, placed the principal impediment in the way of cable expansion by withdrawing capital allowances in the last but one Budget. That gesture illustrated the source of power because ultimately it is the man who signs the cheques who has the political clout and one such person has been conspicuously absent from the Butcher Committee.

Recent experience should have taught Britain that the company needs political momentum and commitment to drive a successful national industrial policy. That might require one minister with the power to over-ride the prejudices of competing government departments. Whatever it takes it must be done, otherwise the wasted efforts of people like those on the Butcher Committee can only add to the skills shortage.

Copies of the Butcher report are available from the DTI, 128 Victoria St., London SW1E 6RB.



John Butcher, junior minister for industry, and his nineteen-strong committee put in a lot of input on Britain's skills shortage - but Whitehall has not understood the message.

## Software bargains that cost more

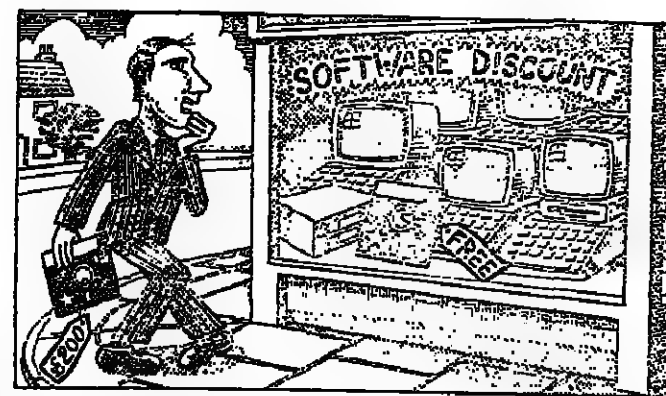
By David Tebbutt

It is a sad fact that the price of computer software is no indication of its actual worth. You can sometimes obtain software almost free and you can pay hundreds or even thousands of pounds for it.

You can part with the full price for packages such as Lotus 1-2-3, WordStar and dBase II or you can get big discounts, often from the same supplier. The reasoning is that the full price contains a mysterious element called support whereas the lower price does not. You may think that support means the same thing to each supplier, but the truth is that many dealers are utterly incapable of helping you out of difficulties.

You could end up paying extra just for the illusion of security. The disreputable dealer will hope you do not come back for help; other companies will help customers in trouble even if it means losing money on that particular sale.

Because it is difficult to compete with a top-selling product, some US companies have taken to producing identical products, but at a much lower price. An example of this is New Word, which is a WordStar clone but sells at less



than half the price. If a Lotus 1-2-3 clone came to Britain at, say, £100, how would you feel about buying the genuine article at £4,300?

Down the market you will find that some publishers, such as Paperback Software and Borland International, have decided to strike a blow for buyers and price their products around £50.

At that sort of price some dealers reckon that a sale that takes more than 30 seconds is unprofitable. You will not get much support at these prices but because the products are straightforward and well-documented, you are unlikely to need it anyway.

Some small companies publish software from around £10 which, in many cases, is good value. Most products at this level are what are called utilities - they perform a useful function but are not essential for the successful running of your system.

An American idea which does not seem to have yet caught on in Britain is "shareware". The authors want their products to be copied and

shared around. They also expect regular users to send them a registration fee, usually around \$25. Again, these products are likely to fall into the utility category.

Other low-cost sources of software are user groups and magazines, such as 16-Bit Computing, which offer their members and readers what is called public domain software at the cost of reproducing the disk - say ten or fifteen pounds.

Finally, we come to free software. A popular source is the bulletin board computer system, which you can call using your computer and, when the two machines are talking to each other, transfer a copy of the programs. This activity is really reserved for the enthusiast since you can run into the odd technical problem.

Bundled software is often the best bargain of all. This is software which comes free with your computer. If the packages are just what you need then you have truly got a bargain. If you need to run further applications, be sure that they are available for the computer in question before buying it.

## Acorn's latest bid for success

By Matthew May

The launch tomorrow of Acorn's Computer 2 new technical micro marks the start of the company's latest strategy to try to pull itself back to success.

Last week Acorn had to be bailed out of financial trouble for the second time this year by Olivetti and its main creditors.

Olivetti, which bought 49.3 per cent of the company for £10 million in February, has now increased its stake to nearly 80 per cent with a further payment of £4 million and Acorn has duly become a subsidiary. As part of the latest rescue six main creditors are to receive half the £25 million owed to them in cash plus some unsecured loan stock. The BBC has agreed to write off £2 million worth of royalties due for the BBC micro.

The launch of Acorn's new product, the Cambridge Workstation, is aimed at scientific and industrial users. It is long overdue as the company only belatedly realized that it could no longer rest on the BBC micro and its spin offs to generate profit.

It suffered from the same unrealistically high price levels that the BBC micro itself has long been criticized for - modest price cuts soon followed. Acorn's new managing director, Brian Long, is now installed, taking over from the temporary secondment of Olivetti director, Alex Ubaldi, to the post.

Now that Acorn is 80 per cent Italian-owned, there are likely to be increased calls that computer literacy courses in schools and through the BBC's television programmes be based both on a more "British" company and one which can offer computers that will match those in use in offices.

Acorn's own business micro, the Communicator, is due to be released later this year. It was lured into a sense of complacency by the unheralded and runaway success of the BBC computer yet while Acorn lumbered other companies caught up and overtook with better and cheaper products leaving the company in the worst possible position to face the downturn in computer sales that followed last Christmas.

## Jeffrey takes over from Sir Clive at Sinclair

## COMPUTER BRIEFING

The appointment of Bill Jeffrey as chief executive of Sinclair Research ends a search of several months to find someone to step into Sir Clive Sinclair's shoes and take over the day-to-day running of the troubled company. The quest became more urgent after Robert Maxwell's proposed rescue deal for Sinclair, which has yet to be finalized, when Sir Clive made it clear that he would relinquish much of his control and leave the board. Mr Jeffrey, 40, joined Sinclair Research in March this year from Mars Electronics, where he was head of the marine systems division. He spent the past four months running Sinclair's television and communications division.

## Schools boost

The Government is to allocate £5 1/2 million towards developing the use of computers in schools. Two million pounds will come from the Department of Education and Science to provide a follow-up service to the Microelectronics Programme, which will stop next March. The MEP has had received £25 million in funding during its four-year existence. A further £3 1/2 million over three years will come from the DTI for local education authorities and independent schools to buy educational software.

## EEC grapevine

Small British high technology companies and University computer-science departments are sometimes discouraged from applying for EEC Esprit funding, because they do not know how to do it, and are scared by the bureaucracy. Nor do they hear about EEC tenders.



## Doubts as Amiga enters the market

By Dennis Kneale

Commodore International is hoping its highly touted Amiga computer, introduced at a lavish news conference in New York last week, will revive the dormant home computer market, stem the company's recent losses and mitigate Commodore's toy computer image.

Amiga, the centerpiece of the company's comeback bid, is priced at \$1,295 (£925) without a screen - its shipments are scheduled to begin in the US in September.

Commodore has said it hopes to sell 150,000 Amigas by the end of the year. Commodore has also announced that an accessory letting the Amiga run IBM personal computer programs will eventually be sold. "It's the ace in the hole we need," said Adam Chovancic, technology vice president.

But an industry analyst, Jan Lewis, of Lewis Research, who expects Commodore to sell at most 60,000 Amigas by Christmas, argues that Amiga will be hurt by "sort of an identity crisis". Its vaunted visual and sound features will appeal to consumers but may be too expensive for many to buy, she said, while small businesses "are the very guys who are willing to give up the bells and whistles and frills just to save money".

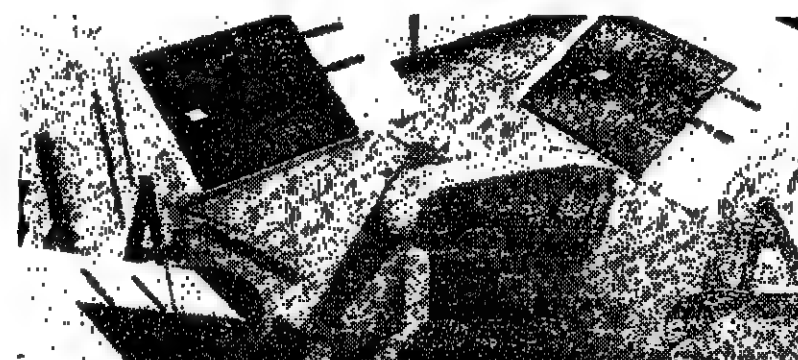
Amiga may most directly affect sales of Apple Computer's Apple II line, but also may affect the Macintosh. At its current price, Amiga offers twice the internal memory of the \$1,200 Apple IIC and six times its disc-storage space as well as higher speed and screen clarity.

The Amiga is said to be able to display 4,096 hues, perform several jobs at once, draw cartoon-like animation and offer sound quality two-thirds that of stereo compact-disc players used for music. But much-praised technology has failed before, most notably with Apple's now-discontinued Lisa and Xerox's star, which never sold strongly.

Commodore also faces big financial and marketing obstacles. The three largest US computer chains with more than 900 stores will not sell Amiga - and though it aims at both consumers and businesses, mostly home-entertainment titles are ready now and much new business software probably will not be available for a year. Commodore, which posted a \$20.8 million loss in the quarter ended March 31 and has not reported results for the quarter ended June 30, must also deal with bloated inventories and sluggish industry sales generally.

Electronic Arts president Trip Hawkins, whose software company is developing 15 programs for Amiga, said it could appeal to consumers as a home-entertainment system, particularly as sales of videocassette recorders slow down. He said: "People need to be turned on - they aren't just going to stop buying new technology, once the VCR boom fades."

Prospective buyers in Britain will probably have to wait until 1986 before they can buy the Amiga. Commodore UK are unusually reticent about details on the Amiga fearing it might direct attention away from its 128 computer which will go on sale in the UK in September.



The frustration of finding that your local bank's cash machine is out of service on a wet Sunday afternoon could be lessened by the activities of this robot at NCR's manufacturing plant in Dundee. It has been trained to use automated teller machines. By continuously making withdrawals and other service requests, it puts each machine through the equivalent of several years' transactions in an effort to improve reliability. The plant's general manager, Jim Adamson, says: "We used to take people on part time to do this testing but the job was, to put it mildly, boring and no one could stand it for long."

## markets beginning October, 1985.

The hardware needed to scan and display the encyclopedia data are a CD-ROM drive, a personal computer and a monitor. Grolier expects that such drives will become available for most leading personal computers in the near future. To date, Hitachi, Sony and Philips have developed CD-ROM disc drives for personal computers. Atari is planning to market a CD-ROM drive for its new ST computer in the autumn. In addition, Digital Equipment's new available Microvex computer will be equipped with a CD-ROM drive.

## Hack shock horror

Activision, the Californian software company, has just announced a way of making hacking legal in the US. Legal, that is, assuming you're using a pirated copy of its forthcoming title, Hack. The game will obviously be a dream for hackers, and a nightmare for everyone else, as in an attempt to recreate the reality of hacking all the player will be presented with initially in an opening screen containing the request to "Log on please."

After that, it's up to you. Your aim is obviously to find out whose system you're hooked into, what's going on, and what you can do with it.

"The user becomes involved in a suspense-filled adventure," says Activision. "There is a mystery to be solved, although there may be many different paths to the solution." Hack will initially be released in the US only. The price remains a secret.

## Geac first

Geac Computers of Marham, Ontario, has developed one of the first optical-storage interfaces for microcomputers. It allows personal computers to store and retrieve data from optical discs capable of storing more information than a large mainframe computer. It is claimed.

Douglas Brooks, manager of optical disc systems, said: "Because it is a low-cost, simple system, it will also allow businesses to experiment with optical-disc technology."

The Giga-Attach consists of a small circuit board that attaches to a single personal computer. It contains the special software needed for a personal computer to emulate a terminal with MS-DOS operating software to access the optical disc storage unit. A single optical disc linked to the network can store up to two gigabytes of data.

Only one unit needs to be installed because it acts as a gateway, allowing all personal computers on a business local area network to be hooked into it. Each unit will cost about £240.

The company, maker of mainframe computers for multiple transactions that require larger storage systems, plans to develop a family of Giga-Attach products to work on a variety of personal computers. The first one will be compatible with the PC/XT manufactured by IBM.

## Scots plant

American company, Digital Equipment, is expected to announce tomorrow plans to open a chip-manufacturing plant in Scotland. Last week another US company, Darnon Biotech, said it would build a £30 million biotechnology plant in Livingston, Scotland, to produce monoclonal antibodies. The location was chosen, says the company, because of an expert scientific and medical community and the financial assistance offered by the Scottish Development Agency.

## Chinese breakthrough

A computerized Chinese-language information storage system to check written character frequency, edit dictionaries and research the language, has been developed by scientists at the Peking Teachers' University.

The system is claimed to mark a breakthrough in Chinese language-processing research and provides an advanced means for studying the development of the Chinese language. The system consists of three sub-data bases of Chinese characters, phrase and language information and a Chinese word index file and enquiry operating code. It can automatically process any Chinese language information into corresponding word and phrase data banks, print out lists of word-usage frequency, edit phrase-composition dictionaries and compile word-entry indexes.

The scientists claimed to have used the system to compute the usage frequency of more than a million Chinese characters in the 24 languages' textbooks used in primary and middle schools in the country.

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## If you must automate, remember your friends

By Charles Brett

Office automation is about the application of systems to offices. The objectives are simple: to create wealth by improving margins, competitiveness and productivity and by reducing overheads.

Such simple objectives are forgotten or ignored by many of the suppliers of office automation. To these suppliers office automation is a technology product to be sold as a product, with little consideration of impact or effect.

The approach is at variance with common sense and practice. Offices are staffed by people and without them, offices will not function. It is people who will generate the benefits and wealth for which office automation is intended. Alienating office staff, be they

chairman or messenger, professional or typist, is proven to be a cause of non-acceptance of new office systems.

Minimal attention is given to the fact that office employees who work with paper, by moving around and by use of the telephone - will find their jobs changing with office automation.

Nevertheless the suppliers of office automation perpetuate an approach based on the belief that such automation is just a product to be bought and sold off the shelf. For example, for one company which was sold such a system, the vendor did not even mention that there might be any organizational impacts. As would be expected, this increased both overall cost and the difficulty of implementation.

The essence of office automation is that it must reflect people. Office automation is not merely a product; it is also a catalyst for change.

Offices which are not oriented directly to achieving goals gradually become a self-perpetuating overhead. But an overhead without a review. This lamentable state of affairs has become commonplace, even a new desk, a personal computer or redecoration is too often infinitely easier to authorize. A rare opening exists, but remember, just as an inefficient accounting system, when computerized leads to a computerized inefficient accounting system - so the same can occur in the office.

The author is a senior consultant for P.A. International.

## Lessons universities can learn

### JOB SCENE

By Edward Fennell

Running computer facilities in universities and polytechnics is a major activity. Not only do the computer centres provide the routine services needed by any big organization, help to support research projects. For they the data-processing experts who like a bit of academic spice in their work the facilities could provide a useful niche for developing one's career.

But mark the word "expert". In common with many other employers, universities like to buy their staff "ready-made" and not provide any training for new entrants to the profession. The chief administrator of Manchester University's regional computer centres (UMRCC), said: "We don't want to provide training - we choose not to provide training - and we won't provide training."

### It is not always easy to poach experienced staff

UMRCC is a substantial computer facility. It provides services to 35 higher-education institutions throughout the country as well as working for a number of research councils.

It has more than 150 staff and an impressive array of hardware, hardly any of it, incidentally, British. But the suggestion that it might do some training itself is not attractive. "Oh, what we like to do is to poach experienced staff from other employers," said Mr Griffiths.

UMRCC is however finding, to its cost, that poaching is not always easy. A recent

advertisement for nine programmes attracted lots of applicants but few of the right calibre. Mr Griffiths added: "We're looking for graduates who are not only qualified in computing work but have got several years' experience with control data or Amdahl equipment."

"Unfortunately we don't seem to get many of these applying."

When you look at the salary levels offered by universities, it is not surprising. The starting range is between £5,000 and £7,000 and the maximum for most jobs is around £12,000. "I reckon that we would need to offer another £1,500 to £2,000 to be in the running," conceded Mr Griffiths.

Turnover among staff tends to be high as those who work in the university computer centres for a couple of years decide to quit for something better in the commerce or industry worlds. Yet higher education can often offer broader work than is available elsewhere. "We're doing a lot of advanced work in developing communications networks," said Mr Griffiths, "and that is going to be an exciting field over the next five to 10 years."

At Kingston Polytechnic, the computer unit is collaborating with Digital Equipment Corporation which is funding state-of-the-art work in several fields.

## How this revolution really checks out

### LETTERS

From E.H. White, Little Billing, Northampton

Your technology correspondent, Bill Johnston, in his article, "The Great Check-out Revolution" (July 16), says that the use of computerized terminals at retail check-outs will depend on the public and the trade embracing EPOS. The trade certainly intends to, judging by the number of items now on sale with bar codes already in place. But is the public likely to be consulted? Of course not, it never is.

With EPOS, it seems to me that a customer, if he or she wishes to check correct entry in the register, will find it necessary to list all purchases and prices. How else can it be known if the computer has been programmed with the same prices as those shown on the fixture?

All the advantages of EPOS will lie with the store. There will be nothing in it for the customer. No doubt we shall have the usual assurances that the saving in overheads will be reflected in lower prices to the public, but I suspect that the object is to increase margins, albeit slightly.

From Peter Wood, Dunstable, Bedfordshire

Martin Banks in his excellent article, "Who Gets The Raw Deal In The High Street?" (June 28), points to the large market for sales, servicing and support among small businesses and the self-employed. As a self-employed micro-user, my experience of both a majority of dealers and some of the large companies has been deep-seated incompetence, a lack of dynamism and the need for drastic reviews of personnel at the customer end of the business.

A local dealer lost interest immediately after making a sale and when a minor fault developed on the PC's printer, the organization was not only unable to assist for two days, but failed to contact me to explain their problems.

On the subsequent search for a reliable manufacturer I visited the large regional offices of IBM to be told by reception that they didn't know whether they had any literature on PCs or not, "if there is, it's on the other side of the room", said the girl wearily.

My experience also supports Mr Banks's almost laughably obvious contention that helping customers can lead to further business. If this sort of obvious truth needs to be preached in *The Times*, we have almost touched bottom.

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Applicants, Male or Female, should write to W.M. Stern describing how they match these requirements and quoting reference J2222. Stern Recruitment Associates, Highclere House, Highclere Close, Hemley, Surrey CR2 5JU.



## Squad car terminals

By Alan Lewis

The Metropolitan Police plan to introduce data terminals in squad cars within the next five years. They have already implemented improved methods of dealing with emergency calls via their computer system on the second floor at New Scotland Yard and future enhancements will allow them to match finger prints instantly.

This is all essential to the Met's determination to prove to the public that the police are able to deal rapidly with reports of minor crimes - many of which are reported through the Neighbourhood Watch system.

This was stressed to a Sperry communications conference by Assistant Commissioner Colin Sutton, who heads the Yard's new management support department. He said: "If the public see that the police can cope with minor crimes when they report them, the scheme will succeed."

That Mr Sutton, a best constable who became a law graduate and Assistant Chief Constable for Leicestershire, added: "But if the public see that the police are incapable of dealing with minor crimes, they may take the view that it is not worth reporting the more serious crimes."

The computer section officially opened in October 1984 and is being developed continuously. The system includes an operations room, casualty bureau, Interpol radio room and a link with the City of London police.



Colin Sutton, Law graduate now Assistant Chief Constable

The operations room functions when there is a major incident, such as a plane crash or a terrorist bombing and the casualty bureau provides emergency information for the public.

Though the Metropolitan Police believe the system is secure from terrorist attack, they cannot afford a back-up system. If the system did go down it would be back to pencil and paper.

It is possible that some of the running costs could be clawed back by charging for print-outs detailing results of robberies or road accidents required by members of the public.

Scientists at the communications conference in the South of France also considered ways of mitigating the loss of an aircraft's black box after an explosion. A scheme being examined would involve a continuous message being relayed from the black box to a ground computer system which would store the data.

## Not so user-loved

By Sid Smith

The most frequent question at databases, with only two types of service appealing.

The first group provides a premium service and charges a premium rate, appealing, typically, to business users whose success depends on information. The most widely admired of these services is Dow Jones News Retrieval, which repackages *The Wall Street Journal* for electronic consumption.

The second group aims at the domestic market, charges a modest fee and caters for computer buffs desperate for the latest industry news.

But companies of this second type have realized increasingly the profitability of so-called inter-active services, with subscribers exchanging electronic mail or, in an imitation of citizen's band radio, conversing through the keyboard with one or 30 similar users anywhere in the world.

At any time during these electronic gossip, subscribers can send instant messages to a fellow user or - by mutual agreement - can slope off for private one-to-one chats. Humana nature being what it is, these CB emulators have developed special interest groups of the weirdest kinds. And the arrival of databases such as Sextet seems to have taken on-line inter-action to its illogical conclusion, using the same technology to link its users in breathless, typed conversations with "live electronic lovers across the nation".

European and US experiences have again been identical in the editorial content of

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Software Engineer	Microprocessors, Data Communications, Networking, Telecommunications, A.T.E., Realtime, Avionics, Process Control, Simulation, Telemetry, Defence	\$9,000 to \$18,000
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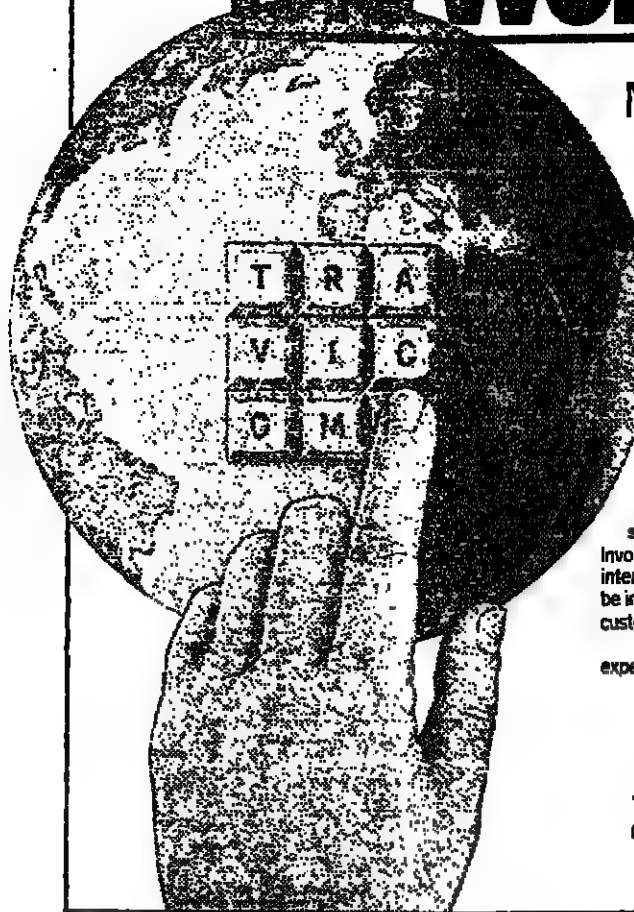


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We'd like the opportunity of meeting you informally next week, so call Peter Wilson our Systems Development Manager during the day on 01-741 9041 or evenings on 01-385 3510. Alternatively write with brief career details to Marian Lawson, United International Pictures, UIP House, 45 Beedon Road, Hammermill, London W8.

# UNITED INTERNATIONAL PICTURES



[illegible]



## Wolves will play on in spite of wind-up

## Birmingham are let off with slapped wrists by the FA

By Stuart Jones, Football correspondent

Wolverhampton Wanderers, who were yesterday ordered to be wound up by a High Court judge because of debts totalling over £700,000, almost certainly will be allowed to begin their League programme on August 17 even if the court-appointed official receiver is still in charge at Molineux.

In the hope that the matter can be resolved with the present owners, Allied Properties Ltd, or that a new buyer can be found to keep the 108-year-old club operating, the League will retain the club's third division fixtures in the 1985-86 list. "Even if a receiver were in charge of the club's affairs on the closing day of the season we would probably allow them to play off," a League spokesman said.

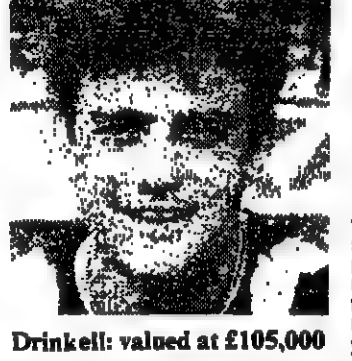
Allied Properties go to the Court of Appeal today to seek a suspension of the winding-up order imposed in Birmingham. They will argue that money to meet debts is on the way from the United States.

Judge Roy Micklethwait granted the winding-up order despite a plea by a solicitor for the club's parent company that \$2.5 million was about to be put into the club by Mahmud Al Hassan Bhatti, of the parent company. He said he expected the money to be payable within 10 banking days and asked for the order to be adjourned until August 19.

The judge said the court would be "very reluctant to wind up the company if there were any real prospect of the debt being paid". But he added: "The evidence does not satisfy me that there is such prospect."

The order was sought by West Midlands County Council, who are owed £30,000 for policing services, and other creditors. Among them was Derek Whelan, the club's former chairman and manager, who was charged three years ago for another fight to save them from collapse. He is owed £109,000.

After the hearing the club's solicitor, Michael Cookson, said: "The outcome was disappointing but I am still hopeful that football will be played at Molineux next season. I believe Mr Bhatti is sincere and the money will come."



Drinkell: valued at £105,000

The Football Association, as they had not been there. God knows what could have happened."

In spite of his reaction after the match, Coombs was yesterday "sundered" by the financial penalty and even added that Birmingham may appeal against the verdict. Leeds, whose supporters have a long and ugly history of violence, were understandably more content with the decision which cleared them of "failing to take all reasonable precautions in accordance with the regulations".

Three months ago the FA received heavy criticism for the action taken against Luton Town and Millwall, whose sixth round FA Cup tie at Kenilworth Road last March was marred by crowd trouble. Millwall, the visitors, were initially fined £7,500 but were surprisingly recently let off after an appeal. So were Luton, who had originally been told to fence in their ground.

In view of the Government's declared intention to take harsh measures in attempting to solve the problem of hooliganism, the FA, by showing such leniency, will scarcely have strengthened its case during the forthcoming talks in Downing Street. The sport's leading representative body can scarcely be surprised if it loses at least some control.

## Fee favours Norwich

Brighton have signed Dean Saunders, Swansea City's 21-year-old utility player, on a free transfer. He is Brighton's third close season signing. Fashanu and Mortimer being the others. Brighton's manager, Chris Cattlin, says he has plans to keep Mortimer on as coach after his playing days end.

Norwich City, the Milk Cup winners, who were relegated to the second division last season, must pay Grimsby £105,000 for the forward, Kevin Dringwell. That was the fee which an independent tribunal meeting at Coventry fixed yesterday. Grimsby had wanted £135,000 and the East Anglian club had offered £75,000.

The tribunal also fixed a £70,000 fee for Steve McLaren (Hull City to Derby County). Hull wanted £200,000 and Derby offered £40,000. Wykeham must pay Bristol City £40,000 for Mike Hooper.

Moshe Simai, the Israeli international, began training with Manchester United yesterday and could make an appearance in today's match at Cambridge. The midfield player, whose £4.5 million transfer fee was paid by the club, is recovering from a hernia operation.

## Wigan pay record fee for Goodway

Wigan paid out a club record sum yesterday to sign Andy Goodway, the Great Britain forward and captain, from Oldham, although neither club was willing to reveal the fee. Goodway, who is playing in Australia, was placed on the transfer list at £100,000, writes Keith Nashlin.

Wigan first offered £50,000 but this was dismissed by Oldham as "ludicrous". Wigan improved their offer to a figure well over the club's £100,000 bid for David Stephenson, the former Salford centre three-quarter, in 1982. Goodway returns to Britain in September. He is Wigan's third important signing of the summer following Australians, Steve Ellis and Greg Dowling.

The Oldham manager, Frank

## FOR THE RECORD

**WORLD CUP: AFRICAN QUALIFYING COMPETITION.** Quarter-finals: Morocco 2, Egypt 0; Morocco 2, Egypt 0; Morocco 2, Egypt 0; Morocco 2, Egypt 0.

**CRICKET.** International matches: England 2, India 1; England 2, India 1; England 2, India 1; England 2, India 1.

**BASEBALL.** American League: Texas Rangers 5, New York Mets 4; Oakland 5, Milwaukee Brewers 2; Toronto Blue Jays 3, California Angels 2; Detroit Tigers 5, Minnesota Twins 2; Baltimore Orioles 5, Cleveland Indians 4; Seattle Mariners 7, Boston Red Sox 2.

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## ATHLETICS



Redmond: a sleeping giant who dares not to dream

## Selectors left with a Redmond headache

By Pat Butcher

Derek Redmond should get a headache more often. The 400 metres runner from Shifnal, near Worcester, with a best time of 46.32 seconds, was hoping for around 45.5 seconds this season but after spending most of last Saturday in bed with "a splitting headache" he got up, stepped on to the Bislett track in Oslo and smashed David Jenkins' 10-year-old British record by over one tenth of a second with 44.82.

Back home, with his Trinidadian-born parents and elder sister, Redmond was still coming to terms yesterday with his feat. "Amazing really," he said. "I'd thought of dropping out of the race because of the headache. I took some tablets and slept practically all day. I eventually got up at six, had a shower and went to the track. I still hurt but I thought, hell, I'll run. As soon as I was in the blocks I forgot about it."

"I can't really pinpoint why I ran that fast. Perhaps it's my mom's cooking." Mom was on call to assist her son in other ways yesterday. Redmond had never forget his time but he has trouble remembering the little things. "Hey Mom" was the cry through to the living room half a dozen times. "How heavy am I? How old was I when...?"

In the welter of world records in Oslo, Redmond's achievement did not get the reaction it deserved, nor did it bring him the financial reward it merited. While Steve Cram and Sebastian Coe were receiving an estimated £25,000 for the Dream Mile, Redmond got precisely nothing for his record. "I don't have any sort of grant either. I'm relying on my parents to take care of me."

Two weeks ago he stopped work in a sports shop to concentrate on training. His father's franchise in meat processing machines is helping finance Redmond's career. It was another career decision, which helped Redmond's breakthrough. Tony Hadley, the coach who "was as surprised as I was at my time," is the man to whom Redmond has entrusted his potential which now tend towards the world record, Lee Evans' 43.8 seconds, set with the aid of altitude at the Mexico Olympics in 1968.

Redmond, "daren't think about that". But Hadley, whose squad includes Phil Brown and Lincoln Asquith, says. "The guy can do sub 44 seconds. He's got the potential. He's very, very ambitious and determined to get to the top. But at the same time he's got a tremendous respect for the people he runs against."

It is interesting that the one man singled out by Redmond for appreciation is Walter McCoy, the powerhouse American who has beaten him twice but he has trouble remembering the little things. "Hey Mom" was the cry through to the living room half a dozen times. "How heavy am I? How old was I when...?"

Steve Overt continues his comeback after last year's Olympic collapse with a 1,500 metres race in the Finnish town of Lappeenranta this evening. He is due to face Jose Abascal, the Olympic bronze medal winner.

Overt may be rejoicing his old and new world record-breaking colleagues, Sebastian Coe and Steve Cram, in Britain's European Cup team for Moscow on August 17 and 18. The selections will be made on Monday but approaches have been made to Coe to run in the 800 metres, to Cram to run in the 1,500 metres and to Overt in the 5,000 metres.

The scabious thinking behind the invitation to Overt is that the nature of the European Cup, with one athlete per event per country, tends towards a tactical middle-distance and distance races. Overt showed in

## Tactical thinking behind Overt trip to Moscow

By Pat Butcher

## TENNIS

## Germans put speed in court to suit Becker

Bonn (Reuters). - West German tennis officials have ordered the clay court at Hamburg's Rothenbaum club to be speeded up to give the Wimbledon champion, Boris Becker, an advantage in next weekend's Davis Cup tie with the United States.

Becker, aged 17, who surprised the tennis world by becoming the first unseeded player to win the Wimbledon singles title, has had his game best suited to fast surfaces. The Rothenbaum groundsman has been asked to take off as much loose material as possible from the court and pack it down hard.

The West Germans had originally expected John McEnroe to be in the United States team for the world group quarter-final matches and had asked the groundsman to prepare as slow a court as possible, copying the example of Sweden at last year's Davis Cup final in Gothenburg. McEnroe and Jimmy Connors, who dislike slow clay surfaces, decided not to play this year and in their places will be Eliot Teltscher and Aaron Krickstein, who are clay court specialists.

"The two American singles players are good on slow courts," Jens-Peter Hecht, a West German Tennis Federation spokesman, said. "But Becker likes faster surfaces, as does Andrease Maurer, so we must try to get the court as fast as we can."

Since Becker's Wimbledon win there has been a huge demand for Davis Cup tickets, even though the club's 11,500 centre court seats for all three days were sold out months ago. Tickets are reported to be as high as £180 (£200 for three-day passes with a face value of DM145 (£36)).

Organizers say the demand has been so great that it would have been possible to fill the new Volkspark stadium, home of Hamburg, the former European football champions, which has a capacity of 62,000.

## Mrs Lloyd tops list

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

There is no official ranking of those "big occasion" players who excel in the grand slam championships. The following orders of merit are based exclusively on the last four of those tournaments, with the weaker Australian event given less weight than the championships of France, Wimbledon and the United States.

Boris Becker, Stefan Edberg and Henri Leconte have made notable advances in the men's singles. Chris Lloyd is given the smallest possible edge over Martina Navratilova in the women's singles because Mrs Navratilova failed to reach the Australian final. Nobody challenged their status.

Doubles partnerships change so often that the lists given here are no more than rough guides to merit. Peter Fleming and John McEnroe are no longer dominant. Mark Edmondson appears in two of the

five leading pairings, which include two Swedish teams. Miss Navratilova and Pam Shriver are still supreme in women's doubles.

**MEN'S SINGLES:** 1. M. Navratilova (USA); 2. B. Becker (FRG); 3. S. Edberg (SWE); 4. H. Leconte (FRA); 5. J. McEnroe (USA); 6. C. Lloyd (GBR); 7. A. Krickstein (USA); 8. E. Teltscher (USA); 9. P. Fleming (GBR); 10. J. Connors (USA).

**MEN'S DOUBLES:** 1. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 2. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 3. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 4. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 5. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 6. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 7. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 8. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 9. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA); 10. M. Navratilova (USA) and P. Shriver (USA).

**WOMEN'S SINGLES:** 1. M. Navratilova (USA); 2. B. Becker (FRG); 3. S. Edberg (SWE); 4. H. Leconte (FRA); 5. J. McEnroe (USA); 6. C. Lloyd (GBR); 7. A. Krickstein (USA); 8. E. Teltscher (USA); 9. P. Fleming (GBR); 10. J. Connors (USA).

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**WORLD GAMES**

Attendance needs a powerlift

By Robert Pryce

The World Games are heading for a shortfall of £100,000, according to the Games' director, Tony Rudge. The organisers promised "the largest multi-sport event in London" since the 1948 Olympics. London remains unimpressed. Total ticket sales for the 11-day event are unlikely even to reach their modest target of £70,000. The event has been underwritten by Japanese ship-building magnate Ryoei Sasakawa.

Much depends on tonight's speedway competition at Wimbledon Stadium. Rudge, account director with the London sports promotion company, West Nally, says he expects "something like £2,000" for spectators for the 11-day event. The organisers are not sure if the event will be a success.

However, attendances at Wimbledon's National League meetings this season average only about 1,000. The absence of Erik Gudermund, the world champion, has not helped the world Games event. The Cradley Heath rider damaged a vertebra in a crash in Germany at the weekend and is not expected to ride again until next week's world championships semi-final.

For this event, at least, West Nally has invested some effort in publicity, running competitions in the speedway press. But outside the specialist publications and local sports centres there has been little or no advertising for the Games.

"Our budget was severely cut for a very long time because of the late arrival of sponsorship," Rudge explained. "Because we have to educate people what the World Games are and because they are not in the final, with every four years, the growth of it is going to be pretty slow. The Olympics must have had the same problem. 80 years ago."

The British selectors who have the headache now. Whether to pick Todd Bennett, the holder of the world indoor best, and unbeaten by a Briton this year, for the European Cup in Moscow on August 17 and 18, or Redmond.

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## IN BRIEF

## Lendl takes US title away from Gomez

Indianapolis (Reuters) - Ivan Lendl beat the defending champion Andre Gomez of Ecuador to win the United States Open Clay Court Championships. Lendl, the top seed, kept his errors to a minimum to defeat Gomez, the second seed, 6-1, 6-3. The Czechoslovak, aged 25, has now captured five Grand Prix tournament titles this season - three on clay, one on hard court and one indoors.

**BOXING:** Mike McCullum, of Jamaica, made a successful defence of his World Boxing Association (WBA) light middleweight title in Miami when he stopped David McQuinn of the United States. In the eighth round, Bravon had a bad cut on his left eye which led to the referee stopping the contest.

**HOCKEY:** England have named a party of 16 for the junior World Cup in Vancouver, from August 5 to 27. They will play at least six matches in competition with 13 other countries.

**FOOTBALL:** Derby County yesterday announced a hefty admission charge to meet the cost of safety work at the Baseball Ground. Spectators paying at the turnstiles will be charged an extra 50p. There will be no increase for season ticket holders.

**SPEEDWAY:** Erik Gudermund, of Denmark, the world champion, may be unable to defend his title this year after damaging his spine at the weekend. Gudermund, aged 25, was taken to hospital after crashing at Walsingham. He had a bad cut on his head and a fractured vertebra. He has been advised to rest for six weeks.

**POWERBOATING**

Spalding toppled

Bob Spalding, of Ipswich, was overruled at top of the world formula one table when he finished fifth in the Minneapolis Grand Prix yesterday (Bryan Stiles writes). Handicapped by a shoulder injury he received in a crash during the previous race in the series Spalding was unable to produce the precision driving which had taken him to the top.

He also had to contend with being marked on the starting grid because his catamaran had not been repaired in time for him to produce a qualifying time in practice. His team colleague, Bertil Wik, of Sweden, was second. Spalding's crash in practice when the brackets which held his powerful V8 engine on to his boat shattered off and he

smashed into the side of an aluminium rescue boat. His boat had to be saved free and he later paid tribute to his British-designed safety cockpit for saving him from serious injury.

The change brackets, which had been strengthened after similar problems earlier in the season, will be upgraded on all the Grand Prix boats before the next race. Because of the problem yesterday's grand prix was reduced from 60 laps to 40 as a safety precaution. Enrico Vidoli, of Italy, took over the lead in the standings when he won the race.

**VOLLEYBALL**

EVA must buy success

By Paul Harrison

To all intents and purposes, the Hittachi Cup women's tournament at Hemi Hempstead at the weekend was a great success. Everyone got what they wanted.

The English Volleyball Association got television time to fuel further the rapid growth of the sport, particularly at junior level. The BBC got some exciting sport to show its viewers on the weekend. Hittachi, the Japanese sponsors, got good publicity and are happy to be linked with the "clean fun" image of volleyball. The Japanese women's team, who won the Hittachi World Cup, got the trophy and all the girls from the four competing teams got a nicely engraved crystal goblet.

The spectators at the Doremus Sports Centre were happy too, having seen volleyball of a far higher standard than they are used to. In the final, when Japan (near Hittachi) defeated the Dutch 3-0 the hall really came alive, particularly in support of the brave, orange-shirted Dutch girls as they saved a spectacular match.

Earlier during the West Germans 3-0 beating of the English girls the atmosphere was a little more muted. It was earlier in the day, there were fewer spectators and as a contest it was much less exciting.

"Our crowd are too polite," said the man from the EVA, "they give equal applause to both sides." In truth, the English crowd were not getting behind one English girls because they realised that English girls had no chance of winning.

England were just making up the numbers as the host nation. And it will say like that until a full training programme is funded and developed by the EVA.

A meeting between the coaches and the EVA was promised at the end of last season, but has not yet happened. Until the English start the same sort of training as the world's top teams the national sides will continue to be 3-0 failures at the highest level.

**Britain's inspiring team manager seeks European gold**

Showing the jumpers the way

Ronnie Massarella became chief of the British showjumping team almost by accident. After watching his cousin John's horse, Nipper, being ridden by David Broom at the 1982 Olympic Games in Mexico, he followed the British team on their subsequent tour of North America. In Toronto the chief of the British team and Massarella was asked to replace him.

He filled the role again in Dublin in 1969 and the following year was asked if he would manage the team permanently. He said he would do it until after the 1972 Olympics.

Fifteen years later Massarella is still in charge. Since 1970 the British team has won gold medals in the 1978 world championships and 1979 European Championships; silver medals at the 1969 alternative Olympics and in the Games proper at Los Angeles last summer; bronze in the 1982 world championships.

Massarella intends that this week's European Championships in France (July 31 to August 4) will add another gold to the tally. "I'll be damned disappointed if we don't win," he said before leaving. "But it won't be that easy. The French, West Germans and Swiss are all good teams."

The first lesson that Massarella learned in his job, in his own words, was that "you don't win Nations Cups by thinking of individuals, you have to think collectively." The team which won the 1978 world championships and then went on to win the European Championships the following year was the best exponent of Massarella's collective thinking.

It consisted of David Broom, the late Caroline Bradley, Derek Ricketts and Malcolm Pyrah. In Massarella's mind it was the greatest showjumping team this country has ever produced.

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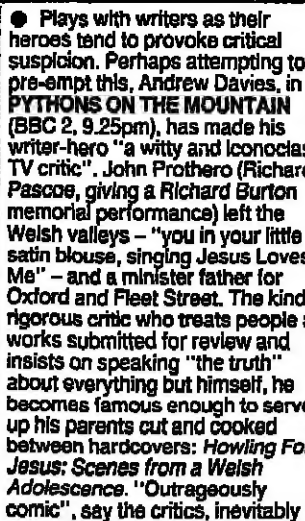








**Edited by Peter Dean  
and Peter Davalle**



## CHOICE

more impressed than are the family peers and howlers for Jesus in the birthplace to which Prothro returns. As a dramatist, Davies leaves few new footprints on the beach - the angry young Welshman the minister, after all, is a 1950s guy reluctant to "go the whole way" will seem like members of the family to many viewers.

● The title of tonight's *Nature Watch Special*, **BILL ODDIE - BIRDWATCH** (8TV, 10.30pm) invites a dilemma for most, and who Oddie a lot and birds a little or vice versa. That a man most celebrated for falling off bicycles and laughing at his own jokes in the comedy world of television should be of interest at weekends in binoculars and woolly hat is open to debate. In

this context, the comedian is plain *We Oddle* of West Midlands Bird Club, a figure of little interest outside the RSPB newsletter. The *oddle* is a probably insignificant but the real seam of disquiet both ornithologists and *oddle*-watchers.

● The BBC's nuclear season after *The Bomb* continues with *THE FIRST 40 YEARS* (BBC 2, 10.15pm) in which Ludovic Kennedy talks to those who built the bomb, parents of a baby which has slept longer but may yet scream more loudly than any bomb. The discussion, which extends to politicians including Denis Healey – serves as an intellectual stiff gin before tomorrow's screening of *The War Game* and Thursday's *Treads*.

**Mark Lawson**

Mark Lawson

tv-am

**6.15** Good Morning Britain, presented by Nick Owen and Jayne Irvine. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.18. 5.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.00, 9.22; sport at 6.39 and 7.37; exercises at 6.50; Popeye cartoon at 7.23; pop video at 7.45; Jeni Barnett's cartoon at 8.15; a discussion on migration at 8.40; Stardate at 9.03. The guests include Rocky Taylor and John Dankworth.

**ITV LONDON**

**9.25** Thames news headlines followed by *Larry the Lamb* (p. 8.40) *Potty Time* with Mel Bentine (p. 10.05) *Fireball XLS* Science fiction adventures (p. 10.30) *Freestyle Special*, Mick Robertson with news of holidays designed for children (p. 10.40) *Cartoon Time* with Little Witch Girl, 11.05 *Home*. Drama serial (p. 11.15).

**1.30** About Britain: Straight from the Wood. The woodland crafts of charcoal burning, tobaccon making, pig iron founding and swill basket making.

**2.00** Flicks. Christopher Lillicrap with the story, Charlie Needs a Cloak (p. 12.10) *Rainbow*. Learning with puppets (p. 12.15) *The Gaffer*. The new comedy series starring Bill Maynard (p. 12.20).

**1.00** News at One with Leonard Parkin. Weather. 1.20 *Thomas* News, presented by Robin Houston. 1.30 *Return of The Saint*. Ian Ogilvy stars as the world's most successful man going to the aid of a beautiful Eurasian girl (p. 1.45).

**2.30** *Regrets?* The first of a new series in which John Stapleton talks to well-known names about periods in their life they would rather not have experienced. His first guest is Peter Adamson.

**3.00** Definition. Cryptic clue game presented by Jeremy Beade. 3.25 Thames news headlines. 3.30 *The Young Doctors*.

**4.00** Flicks. A repeat of the black and white short, 4.10 *Victor and Maria*. Cartoon (p. 4.20) *Storybook International: The Spotted Sore* (Oracle).

**4.45** *The End of the Rainbow* Show. The first of a new series presented by David Bellamy in which the brilliant professor helps school children to explore the world around them (Oracle). 5.15 *Silver Spoons*. The story of a young boy and the father he has only just met. News with Michael Nicholson. 6.00 Thames news.

**6.30** For Valiant. The story of how Sandra Catter was with the Victoria Cross in Syria in 1941.

**7.00** Emeraldale Farm. Why is Sandie Merrick the only person who seems to like Terence Turner?

**7.30** *Never the Twain*. Comedy series starring Donald Sinden and Windsor Davies as rival auction sale owners united in a fragile friendship by the marriage of their two children (p. 7.45).

**8.00** *The Streets of San Francisco*. Detectives Stone and Keller investigate a number of questionable deaths at a mental institution (p. 8.15).

**8.30** Taggart. Part two of the three-episode drama about the murder by fire of a young woman (Oracle).

**9.00** News at Ten with Alastair Burnetts and Sandy Gall.

**9.30** Bill Odde - Birdwatcher. A new series of nature documentary in which Julian Pertillar talks to Bill Odde about his fascination with birdwatching (Oracle) (see Oracle).

**10.30** Travelling Man. Drama series about Sir's efforts to trace his missing son along the inland waterways of the north of England (p. 10.45).

**11.30** Night Thoughts.

CHANNEL 4

**2.30 The Natural History of the Water Closet.** A musical documentary exploring the more ingenious ways man tries to deal with human waste.

**3.00 Film: The Six-Sided Triangle (1983)** starring Sarah Miles, Nicol Williamson and Bill Mallet. Satirical comedy about how makers from six different countries treat a husband, wife, lover, intruder. Directed by Christopher Miles.

**3.30 The World Games 1985** Sports covered today are: artistic roller skating, trampolining, Karoball and racquetball.

**4.30 Television Scrabble.** Yesterday's winners of the electronic board game are challenged by a member of public partnered by Richard Sigpos.

**5.00 Beachhead.** Samantha is taken on a shopping trip to Tokyo by her mother. Darrin thinks it has gone to the moon.

**5.30 Anything We Can Do.** Dramatized do-it-yourself series (1) (Oracle).

**6.00 Film: Seven Chances' (1925)** starring Buster Keaton. Silly comedy with Keaton playing young man desperate to get married before 7.00pm on 27 January in order to inherit \$7 million. Directed by Buster Keaton.

**7.00 Channel Four news** with P. Sissons and Michelle Han.

**7.50 Comment.** With his views on matter of topical importance. Richard Ritchie, an oil executive and opera buff.

**8.00 Brookside.** As the tension mounts in the nurses' house, Kate's attempts to mediate with the madman almost lead to tragedy.

**8.30 Case on Camera.** Retired C. Bailey Judge, Alan King-Hamilton, presides over a case in which a man sues his dog firm for the loss of his car and a driver using the owner's dog that ran into the road and caused an accident.

**9.00 Film: Evil Roy Stole (1972)** starring John Astin, Pamela Austin and Mickey Rooney. Comedy western about the rancher who swears in the West. The schoolteacher who tries to reform him, and the retired marshal who is persuaded to put his badge once again in order to bring the law to justice. Made-for-television spoof directed by Jerry Paris.

**10.45 Black on Black.** The final edition of the series features highlights of its three-year history including performances by the Roots and the Maytalls. Others appearing on the show include Benjamin Zephaniah, Phil Fearon and Debby Bishop.

**11.40 Ready, Steady, Go!** A repeat of the edition which included Gene Pitney and P. Proby.

**12.10 Closesown.**

**20 Choirs in C**  
Bradley vi

[illegible]

12.15	Middle Boys
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- 1.05 Orchestra, Mendelssohn's  
Overture Ruy Blas, Mozart's  
Piano Concerto No.8 1.1.10
- 2.05 Maddy Concert. Part 2. Britain's  
Simple Symphonies Opus 4, Bliss's  
Three Songs to Claret
- 3.05 Guitar Encores. Stefano  
Gendron. Bach's Lute Suite No.2.
- 4.05 Imogen Holst. Erdellion String  
Quartet, Steven Spielberg, cello.  
Fall of the Wall, String Quartet  
1947
- 2.25 Utah Symphony Orchestra,  
conducted by Joseph Silverstein  
Dances of wind Sardinia in D  
minor, Vaughan Williams's Lark  
Ascending (Silverstein violin)  
Hindemith's Concert Music for  
string trios, Shostakovich's  
Concerto (Elmar Oliveira, violin).
- 4.00 Julie Adam, piano, from  
Broadcasting House Concert  
Dances of the Piano sonata in  
E flat major, Chopin's Four  
Mazurkas, Schumann's  
Fantasiestück Opus 11.1 4.45
- 5.00 Mainly for Pleasure. J Jeremy  
Siepmann.
- 6.30 Marchetto Cars. Songs for the  
Generation born in 1500. Emily van  
Evera (soprano).†
- 7.00 Ephorahies. Richard Hamilton  
talks to Richard Core about pop art.
- 7.30 Proms 85, Part 1. From the Royal  
Albert Hall. Sarah Walker (mezzo)  
and Nish Khan (violin) play  
Strauss's Serenade in E flat for  
13 wind instruments.  
Schoenberg's Pierrot Lunaire.†
- 8.15 A Memorable Scene. Gordon Ray  
reads the Walter Scott account  
of a Neapolitan episode.†
- 9.30 Proms 85, Part 2. Mozart's  
Serenade in B flat major.†
- 9.35 Music for Strings, Ireland's  
Contemporary Music  
Bournemouth Sinfonietta.
- 10.00 Jazz Today, Charles Fox  
Featuring The Great Stars.†

**HTV WEST** As London except:  
9.25am News, Sesame

**ANGLIA** As London except 9.25am Seaside Street, 10.25 Carnon, 10.40 Harlem Globetrotters, 11.05-11.30 Freemint Special, 12.30pm-1.00 Gardens For All, 1.30-2.30 Lewkas Man, 3.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm, 5.00 Abolition, 5.35 Saturday Night Takeaway, 7.00-7.30 Zodiac Game, 8.00-8.00 Magnum 12.30pm Sirrads in a Tapestry, Closesown.

**ULSTER** As London except 9.25am Seaside Street, 10.25 Orphans of the Wind, 10.40 Seaside Society, 11.00-11.30 3-2-1 Contact, 12.30pm-1.00 Glencore, 1.20 Lunchtime, 1.30pm Royal Jordan, 2.00-2.30 A Palace for the People, 3.15-4.30 The Show Theatre, 5.15-5.45 Beverly Hillsbillies, 6.00 Summer Edition, 6.35-7.00 Crossroads, 8.00-8.00 Hart to Hart, 12.25am Closesown.

**SCOTTISH** As London except 9.25am Seaside Street, 10.25 Inventive Boy, 10.35-11.30 Poseidon Files, 12.30pm-1.00 Gardening Time, 1.20pm News, 1.30-2.30 Royal Jordan, 2.00-2.30 A Palace for the People, 3.15-4.30 The Show Theatre, 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm, 5.00 News and Scotland Today, 6.35 Crossroads, 7.00-7.30 Take the High Road, 8.00-8.00 Falcon Crest, 11.30 Law and Order, 11.35 Travelling Man, 12.35am Closesown.

**YORKSHIRE** As London except 9.25am Seaside Street, 10.25 Sally and Jake, 10.35 Wheelies, 11.00-11.30 Freemint Special, 12.30pm-1.00 Gardens For All, 1.30-2.30 12 Calendar, 1.30 Royal Jordan, 2.00-2.30 A Palace for the People, 3.30-4.00 Country Practice, 5.15-5.45 Protectors, 6.00-6.00 Summer Edition, 6.35-7.00 Crossroads, 8.00-8.00 Magnum, 11.30 All Kinds of Country, 12.00 Closesown.

**CENTRAL** As London except:  
9.55am News, 10.15am Sports  
9.50 Matt and Jenny, 10.05-11.30 Films:  
Time of His Life, 12.10pm-1.30pm  
Gardening Time, 1.20 News, 1.50-2.30  
Love and Marriage, 5.15-5.45 Survival  
6.00 Crossroads, 6.25-7.00 News, 8.00-  
8.00 Falcon Crest, 12.30am Closedown.

**CHANCE** As London except:  
9.55am News, 10.15am Kung Kum, 9.45  
Once Upon A Time, 11.00-11.15  
European Folk Tales, 10.25  
Blockbusters, 11.00-11.30 Freeform  
Special, 12.30 pm-1.00 The Gleaner, 1.20  
News, 1.50-2.30 News, 3.30-4.00  
Sons and Daughters, 5.15-5.45 Sport  
Billy, 6.00 Channel Report, 8.15-8.30  
Falcon in the Kitchen, 8.00-9.00 Simon  
and Schuster, 9.00-9.15 News, 9.15-  
9.55 Travelling Man, 12.25am Closedown.

**GRANADA** As London except:  
9.25am News of  
Things, 10.20 Granada Reports, 10.40  
Fireball XLS, 11.05-11.30 Freeform  
Special, 12.30pm-1.00 Glenroe, 1.20  
News, 1.30 Matchroom, 2.30-4.00 Keep  
It Simple, 4.15-4.45 News, 11.55  
I'm 5.00 This Is Your Right, 8.05  
Crossroads, 8.30-9.00 Granada  
Reports, 9.00-9.30 Falcon Crest, 11.30  
The Master, 12.25am Closedown.

**TYNE TEES** As London except:  
9.25am News, 9.30-  
10.30 Sesame Street, 10.50 Stephen  
Grappell in New Orleans, 11.15-11.30  
Channel Report, 11.55-12.00 News,  
1.30-2.30 News, 1.40 Four-in-Hand,  
2.00-3.30 Look Who's Talking, 6.15-6.45  
Dreams, 6.50 News, 6.02 Crossroads,  
6.05 News, 6.15-6.30 News, 8.00-8.30  
Falcon Crest, 11.30 God of Mountains,  
Closedown.

**STARS** 10.00-10.20x The Dolphin, 10.50 Spacewalk, 11.00-11.30x Fractions  
**TELEVISION** 10.00-10.20x The 12.30 News, 10.30-2.30 Irish FM, 3.00-3.30x Now You See It 1.15-5.45x The Game, 6.00 News, 6.35-7.00x Crossroads, 8.00-9.00x The 11.00 News, 11.00x Human Jigsaw, 12.00 News, 12.45-12.55x Clockwork.

**HTV WALES** As HTV West except 10.00-10.20x The 11.00 News, 10.25x Sesame Street, 6.00pm-6.55x Wales at Six.

**GRAMPIAN** As London except: 9.25am-10.20x The 11.00 News, 10.25x Sesame Street, 10.25x European Folk Tales, 10.35x The Hollywoods, 11.00-11.30x FreeTime Special, 12.30pm-1.00x Gardening Time, 1.15-1.30x The 12.30 Drama, 1.55-5.45x Emeraldale Farm, 6.00-7.30x Valour at Six, 8.35 Crossroads, 7.00-7.30x For Murther, 8.00-8.00x Hotel.

**TSW** As London except: 9.25am Sesame Street, 10.25x Blockbusters, 11.00-11.30x FreeTime Special, 1.00-1.30x The 12.30 News, 1.30-2.30x Champions, 3.30-3.50x Sons and Daughters, 5.15x Guz Honeyburn, 5.30-5.45x Crossroads, 6.00 Today South Wales, 6.00-6.30x The 11.00 News, 6.30-7.00x The 11.00 News, 11.00x Postscript, 11.35x Travelling Man, 12.30pm Ciseodown.

**TVS** As London except: 9.25am Outlook, 9.30 Sesame Street, 10.25-10.30x Noveltions, 12.30pm-1.00x Sultans, 1.20x News, 1.30-2.30x Fractos, 3.15-5.45x Sons and Daughters, 6.00 Coast to Coast, 6.25 Politics, 6.35-7.00x Crossroads, 8.00-9.00x Magnum, 11.30x Champions, 12.30pm Company.

**THE WORDS SYMBOLS MEAN**  
† Stereo. \* Black and white. † Repeat

**WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN**  
† Stereo. ★ Black and white. (r) Repeat

**ROBERT LINDSAY**  
"An Absolutely Inspired Perform-  
ance" *F* Times

[illegible]

2132 CC 01-379 6433  
THE HARDMAN

[illegible]

UP 'N' UNDER  
'A WONDERFUL COMEDY' S. TIMES

[illegible]

**SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS**  
THE DANCES ARE TERRIFIC! THE

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HALL... "SHOW" D. MAM...  
NO TICKETS... NO SIMPLE...  
1921 AND CHANGE... TO YOUR  
AIR CONDITION

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THE ACTING COMPANY in  
Marc Blumstein's controversial

THE CRADLE WILL ROCK  
Directed by...  
Thanks to...  
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OLD VIC C 928 7616 C 361 1821  
SEE TOP FIVE & 2ND SHOWS  
WITH AN OLD VIC SUBSCRIPTION  
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Directed by...  
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BROOKLYN

OLIVER 928 6285 C 692 6285 S  
national Theatre's...  
first previews 7:30  
OLIVER 928 6285 S 14 A THURSDAY 8:30  
BROADWAY to Alan  
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PALACE THEATRE 437 6434 C 437  
630 6434 S 437 6434 S  
Eves 7:30 Mat 2:30 Thurs 8:30  
OLIVER 928 6285 S 14 A THURSDAY 8:30  
BROADWAY to Alan  
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BREAKING  
THE SILENCE  
By Stephen Pollakoff  
MARVELLOUS RSC PRODUCTION  
Directed by RON DANIELS

NATIONAL THEATRE South Bank  
NATIONAL THEATRE  
COMPANY  
SEPARATE ENTITIES UNDER  
OLIVER 928 6285 S 14 A THURSDAY 8:30  
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ARE YOU LONESOME  
TONIGHT?  
By Alan Bensdale  
Red. Seats...  
11:30

ICCARDY THEATRE 437 4506 C  
973 6826 C 741 9990 C  
"BRILLIANT NEW MUSICAL"  
By DAVID ELSKY & FRANK FINLAY  
MUTINY!  
"A TREMENDOUS SPECTACLE"  
Eves 8:00, Mat 2:30 Wed 8:30  
Cin. 6:00 at Principal Ticket  
Office

PRICE EDWARD 121-437 6777 S  
EVITA  
Eves 8:00, Mat 2:30 & Sat 8:30  
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Office

THE BUSINESS OF MURDER  
Directed by...  
the hit Thriller by Richard Markin  
Directed by...  
"The Business of Murder" is a...  
the most important picture to have  
appeared in 1950. A play to be  
remembered.

5TH GREAT YEAR  
OVER 1600 PERFORMANCES  
OVERSEAAS THEATRE C 1-236 5555  
S 1-236 5555  
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HOWARD...  
AGGUTTER

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7.30 "Masterful and Tri-  
phant..." S. Times. For special  
theatre deals and hotels

[illegible][illegible]



The Geneva talks, which resume in September, will be a main topic of the meeting between Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachov two months later.



To meet its financial targets it seems clear that the original closure programme announced

The board will be able to sell all the coal it produces in the current year and power station stocks are rebuilt, but later this

However, there seems little prospect of the NCB making major inroads in the export market while world coal prices are low, and it seems likely that

"We are determined to develop a high-volume, low-

**Beerenau**lese from the Austrian district of Burgenland. The level of diethylene-glycol was one of the highest among the 14 contaminated bottles so

military awareness — and “national” pride — before the approach of critical adolescence. With West German television infiltrating almost boys have to do more than their 18 months national service.”

**Roger Boyes**

To meet its financial targets it seems clear that the original closure programme announced

100